THE

MONTHLY EPITOME,

For OCTOBER 1800.

LXXIII. *Narrative of the Deportation to Cayenne, and Shipwreck on the Coaſt of Scotland*, of J. J. Job Aime: written by himſelf, with Obſervations on the preſent State of that Colony, and of the Negroes; and an Account of the Situation of the deported Perſons at the Time of his Eſcape. 8vo. pp. 282. 5s. *Wright*.

EXTRACTS.

STATE OF THE DEPORTED AT THE HOSPITAL OF SINAMARY, IN A LETTER FROM THE COMMANDANT.

"THE hoſpital is in the moſt deplorable ſituation, and the filthineſs and want of attention, that prevail there, have cauſed the death of ſeveral of the deported. Some of the ſick have fallen out of their hammocks in the night, and no attendant has given them the leaſt aſſiſtance; ſo that they were found dead upon the ground. One of them was ſmothered to death, the cords of his hammock having broken at the head-end, while his feet remained ſuſpended.

"The property of thoſe who have died, has been plundered and carried off in the moſt ſcandalous manner. Thoſe who buried them have been ſeen to break their legs, and tread and preſs their weight upon their ſtomachs, in order the more quickly to force them into a grave too narrow and too ſhort to receive them. Theſe horrors were committed in the greateſt haſte, in order to run with the more diſpatch to plunder thoſe who were dying; while the attendants at the hoſpital inſulted the ſick, and loaded them with expreſſions of infamy, ignominy, and cruelty, at the very moment when they were in the agonies of death.

"The ſtore-keeper of the magazine, who was intruſted with the effects of the deported, would only deliver them a part of the property they claimed, ſaying to them, '*You are dead*, 'that is enough for you.' He did not give proviſions for the deported who firſt came from Conanama to Sinamary, and who were ſo weak and emaciated when they arrived, that they fell down through hunger and faintneſs. They were obliged to lie upon the ground, and the ſick were eat up by worms before they expired." *P.* 160.

THE AUTHOR AND HIS COMPANIONS LANDED AT CAYENNE.

"THE iſland of Cayenne is about fifteen leagues in circumference, and is only divided from the continent by arms of the ſea, or rivers of the medium breadth of our rivers in France, and which are almoſt every where uſed as the road of communication to go to the various plantations, and to paſs from one to another. They are in fact the high road of that country. I went with M. Berthollon on board a canoe navigated by a negro with a *pagaye*, which is a kind of oar, whoſe form reſembles that of a wooden ſhovel. This inſtrument they uſe with great addreſs, in regular meaſure, and almoſt always accompanied by ſinging. In three hours we arrived at my friend's

friend's plantation, which lies about four leagues from Cayenne. It is ſituated upon the creek of Cavalet, which runs into the Caſcade river, and is named *la Solitaire*. It would have been difficult to have given it a more appropriate name.

"As we landed, I perceived that my friend had expreſſed himſelf very accurately, when he told me that his plantation was but inconſiderable. I now beheld, in the midſt of immenſe woods, a cluſter of about ten negro-huts, over which a cottage of a ſomewhat more conſiderable appearance ſeemed to predominate. This cottage conſiſted of three rooms, and the whole was covered with branches of trees. It was conſtructed with pieces of rough wood not dreſſed and ſquared, acroſs which laths were fixed, and the interſtices filled with earth worked up with ſtraw, which is very juſtly denominated mud-work *(bouſillage)*. It was in one of theſe rooms that I was to reſide, and a bed was placed there for me, which Berthollon had lent me. It alſo contained ſome chairs, tables, a cloſet, and all the little utenſils which are neceſſary in a very moderate bachelor's eſtabliſhment.

"As long as Berthollon continued with me, the pleaſure of his ſociety, his kindneſs, and his cheerfulneſs, left me no time to reflect on my ſituation; but his affairs would not permit him to be long abſent from home, and he took leave of me two days after our arrival. When he was gone, I felt all the horror of my ſolitude, and experienced a depreſſion at my heart, which I had the utmoſt difficulty to vanquiſh. It muſt be confeſſed that my ſituation was moſt cruel. Exiled to a diſtance of 1500 leagues from my country, from my wife, my children, and my friends; I was now confined to a ſpot in the midſt of impaſſable foreſts, alone among negroes, to whoſe language I was an utter ſtranger, and cut off from all the reſt of mankind, without any idea at what period theſe privations would ceaſe. But I knew that to ſuffer without murmuring, and to make the beſt of his ſituation, is the beſt maxim the unfortunate can adopt; and as I was already accuſtomed to miſery, I ſoon reſigned myſelf to my fate.

"Three principal objects now fixed my attention—my lodging, my food, and my occupations. This was the narrow circle within which all my preſent views were compriſed. My ſituation ſeemed ſomewhat to reſemble that of Robinſon Cruſoe; and although I was not altogether of Rouſſeau's opinion, that his hiſtory is the beſt of books, the little I could recollect of that romance, which I had read in my infancy, was now not wholly loſt.

"As to the firſt of theſe three objects, it was no inconſiderable advancement to be provided with a very indifferent cottage, although the mud-work had failed, and the roof was in a very bad ſtate. I made, however, ſuch arrangements as were moſt calculated to alleviate theſe inconveniencies; and though I was never comfortable, it defended me from the heat of the ſun, and in ſome meaſure from the rain, which were the moſt eſſential points; for Guiana, which lies very near the line, is always either burnt up with heat or drowned with water. The year is there divided into two ſeaſons, rather inaccurately called ſummer and winter; for the heat is always nearly the ſame. Vegetation never ceaſes, the trees are continually covered with flowers, fruits, or leaves; and are never ſeen in a ſtate of nakedneſs. From Meſſidor to Frimaire *, which is the ſummer ſeaſon, there is a conſtant drought, and water is very ſcarce. The heat at this time becomes exceſſive, and would be inſupportable if it were not moderated by the abundant dews of the night, which refreſh the atmoſphere. During the reſt of the year, which is called winter, the rains are continual. The temperature of the air, however, does not vary, and in

* "I am far from cenſuring the new calendar; but on preparing it, ſufficient attention was not paid to the difference there is in the temperature and productions of our colonies, when they were ordered to adopt it. Not one of the new denominations of the months marks the ſtate of the atmoſphere, &c. in theſe climates. If ſome of them are ſuitable, ſuch as Pluviôſe, which is in the rainy ſeaſon, they are too limited, as there are ſeven months which might be involved in that title. Others are altogether ridiculous; for with what propriety can the diſtinctions of Vendémiaire, Frimaire, and Nivôſe, be applied in a country where there is neither vintage, cold, nor ſnow?"

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the intervals of ſunſhine, it is perhaps more ſultry, and certainly more dangerous, than in the other ſeaſon. It muſt be readily conceived, that theſe two extremes will render a flat country extremely unwholeſome; a country which is marſhy from the want of running ſtreams, and covered with immenſe foreſts which intercept the circulation of the air. Thus the fever is naturalized to it; and it rarely happens that thoſe who poſſeſs the ſtrongeſt conſtitutions can paſs through the year without being attacked by it.

"I found in my hut a variety of enemies, from whom it was neceſſary that I ſhould protect myſelf. I ſhall not mention toads, which were crawling by dozens under my bed; that was a trifle, which did not merit a moment's attention, as theſe animals are perfectly innocent; but I cannot be ſilent on the ſubject of muſquitos and bats, which are formidable inmates. The firſt (and in this claſs I comprehend ſeveral kinds of ſtinging flies) are very common in this colony, though much more numerous on the ſea-coaſt than in the interior parts of it. They have a very painful ſting, and both the white and black inhabitants are continually on their guard againſt it. They employ fumigation in that part of the day when theſe inſects appear in the greateſt numbers; as well as in the evening after the ſetting of the ſun; then, indeed, you are not aſſailed by an occaſional muſquito, but you are abſolutely enveloped in clouds of them. The white people add the *mouſtiquaire*, which is a kind of tent, made of gauze, canvaſs, and linen, according to the circumſtances of thoſe who procure them. There are ſome ſituations where it is abſolutely neceſſary to take the ordinary meals under a tent of this kind, and to employ every poſſible precaution that the muſquitos do not enter it: there are others, where little negro boys are placed under the table, with napkins to preſerve your legs from theſe inſects, while you muſt guard your hands and face as well as you can. But there is no habitation where the owners of it do not make uſe of theſe *mouſtiquaires*. In ſhort, to go to bed without them, is a very ſevere puniſhment.

"The bats are not ſo numerous, but they are more dangerous. They are about the ſize of the largeſt of thoſe which we have in Europe. During the day they remain in the timber-work of the houſes, and among the leaves with which it is covered, where it is not poſſible to ſee them; and in the night they come forth in ſearch of food. If they find any one uncovered, they fix upon his feet, inflict a ſlight wound upon his toe, moderating the pain by a gentle motion of the wings, which at once cools and ſets him aſleep: they then gorge themſelves with his blood, and leave it to flow till the veſſels are exhauſted. I ſaw an example of what I have now related, in the chamber adjoining to that which I occupied. The perſon who had been bit was extremely weakened by the abundant bleeding he had undergone; and his ſheets were drenched with blood. I have ſeen alſo hogs who were bit by the bats, ſome of which have died.

"My firſt object was, therefore, to procure a linen *mouſtiquaire*, when I had nothing to fear, during the night, from muſquitos or bats, and I ſlept free from diſturbance. The toads departed at break of day, and I was left maſter of the houſe, though I was not free from the attacks of other inſects. I experienced ſuch violent itchings, that I could not avoid ſcratching myſelf till I drew blood, and without being able to diſcover the cauſe. A negro informed me that I was attacked by a kind of lice called *poux d'agouti*. It is a red inſect imperceptible to common ſight; and can be diſcovered only by very minute obſervation. I, however, at length diſcovered them. The negro who had made me acquainted with the cauſe of my complaint, communicated the remedy, which was to anoint myſelf with the juice of lemons; and as they are in great plenty, I ſoon got rid of theſe plagues. Another inſect, which was ſtill more tormenting, is the *chique* (Pulex penetrans, Linn.). It is very ſmall, leaps like the flea, which it reſembles in colour. It attaches itſelf to every part of the body, but particularly to the great toes and heels. It inſinuates itſelf into the pores, makes its lodgment, depoſits its young, and in four or five days forms a kind of pouch of the ſize of a pea, which contains the whole family, and ſometimes more than one generation. The place which it occupies would be ſoon gnawed in a terrible degree, if a remedy were not applied. I have frequently ſeen negroes whoſe principal

toes had been the prey of these voracious creatures. The method of cure is extirpation with the point of a penknife, but more generally with the point of a pin. The flesh that covers the pouch must be removed, but with great care, that it may not burst, otherwise the insects would be reproduced: when, however, there is any danger of reproduction, an application of tobacco will sometimes prevent it: but in whatever manner this operation is performed, it proves extremely painful. Within a week after I had arrived at the colony, I had thirty of these extraordinary lice at my feet. Since that time I have had less of them; but have not, for seven days together, been free from their visits.

"When I was established in my cottage, with a bed and a *mousliquaire*, no small objects of luxury for an exile, it was necessary to pay attention to my food; and I was fed in the same proportion as I was lodged. As the government did not allow me any provisions, I was obliged to provide for myself. I had brought a small quantity of bread from Cayenne, but in six days it became mouldy; and as I had no ready means of sending thither for more, I was under the necessity of waiting for some accidental opportunity, which seldom presented itself oftener than once a month. On the other hand, this bread being made of European flour, which was generally damaged and full of insects, was not very inviting; and, after all, it cost twelve *sous* per pound. All these considerations determined me to content myself with the bread of the negroes, which is made from the flour of the manioc, and is called *cassava*. Nothing can be more dry or tasteless, but it is improved by moistening it, and at length I accustomed myself to it. I easily procured rice, which is in great plenty at Cayenne. Fish is common, and excellent: it was a principal resource of my table. As to drink, I had brought with me a few bottles of wine, and had procured a small quantity of *taffia*, which is an extract of sugar. I used it with moderation; but as I was in a country where every thing tended to relaxation, it was indispensable to counteract that tendency by some corroborating fluid.

"It may now indeed be asked, is there no butcher's meat, nor milk, nor poultry, nor game, nor gardens in this country? And free as you were, and possessing money to purchase whatever you might want, why did you not procure yourself these advantages?—Previous to the revolution, cattle, milk, and poultry, were in some degree of plenty; but at present, these articles are equally scarce. These, however, require continual care and attention, which the negroes, since they have obtained their liberty, will no longer exercise. Besides, in the first effervescence of freedom, they seized on the cattle, and have considerably diminished the species. On the other hand, the colonists, disgusted with the new order of things, which, in a great measure, annihilated their property, paid but little attention to the resources which remained: and lastly, the requisitions have almost produced a general destruction. When I quitted Cayenne, it was no longer permitted to kill a cow, a calf, or a sheep, without the special authority of the agent; and such a permission was never obtained but with great difficulty, and with such a reservation to himself, as illustrated the fable of the lion who divided the spoil. Hence it is, that the quantity of butcher's meat and of milk food is so small, as scarcely to be considered as articles of provision in this colony.

"Fowls succeed very well, and particularly ducks, which are of a very fine species; but from the extreme drought and humidity of the seasons, uncommon attention is necessary to preserve them. I have already explained the reasons for the indifference of people of property; while the negro, having no interest in these objects, pays no attention to them; so that a fowl sells for three, a duck for twelve *livres*, and an egg for three *sous*.

"The game* consists of the wild duck, which is excellent, the *spatula*, which is equally good, the partridge, the snipe, and the wood-pigeon; all of which are inferior to those of Europe. To these may be added, the flamand, the aigrette, the grosbec, the tacoco, and the perroquet, which are in no estimation. The quadrupeds are, the agouti, the accouchi, the pac, the ta-

* "It is proper to observe that, respecting every thing which is peculiar to Guiana, I shall employ the terms used in the country."

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tou, about the ſize of our hares and rabbits, but very inferior to them; the deer, whoſe fleſh is generally very hard; but in this country it cannot be kept, and muſt either be eaten quite freſh or in a ſtate of putrefaction. I was told by every one that the monkey is a delicate food; but I never had an opportunity of verifying the opinion, nor do I think that I ſhould have had the inclination. The lizard, which is of the ſame kind as that of Europe, but larger, is alſo conſidered as a delicacy. I ate of it, without being informed of the contents of the diſh, and found it a palatable food.

"As for hunting, it is not only an extremely painful, but a dangerous occupation; as it muſt be purſued in thick woods, whoſe paſſage is continually embarraſſed with creeping plants, and where the ſportſman muſt be every moment liable to tread upon ſerpents, which are very common and extremely venomous in this burning climate.

"Garden cultivation requires a laborious attention, and is not ſucceſsful, ſo that vegetables are not only rare, but very indifferent, at Cayenne. The alternate extremes of drought and humidity preſent obſtacles which it is very difficult to ſurmount. The melon ſucceeds in ſome parts, and is of a fine flavour. Fruits are in great abundance, and require but little culture. The moſt valuable of them is the banana, which is one of the chief reſources of the colony; and, whether dreſt or raw, whether boiled or baked, it is always excellent. It figures on the table as bread and ragout, as confectionary and fruit. There is alſo the ſweet orange, the anana, which emits a fragrant odour, but is of an acid taſte; the mango, tranſplanted from the Indies, is very wholeſome, but has, in a ſmall degree, the ſmell of turpentine: the cocoa, the apricot, and the cherry; but they bear no reſemblance to the fruits of the ſame name in Europe: the latter is only eaten as a preſerve; the fig, the ſapotille, the barbadine, the avocat, the coroſſol, and ſome others. In general, the fruits of Europe are, in my opinion, infinitely ſuperior; and I do not heſitate to give them the preference." *P.* 163.

PRODUCTIONS OF THE ISLAND.

"The nights are nearly as long as the days at Cayenne. The ſun riſes almoſt always at ſix, and its variations do not exceed half an hour throughout the year. The dawn and the twilight do not occupy more than a quarter of an hour; the day appears and diſappears with the ſun. I aroſe every morning before it was light, and took my walk in the neighbouring woods till about eight o'clock. It was by that time very hot; I therefore returned home, applied myſelf to reading, tranſmitted my reflections to paper, and at four in the afternoon retreated again to the woods, where I remained till night.

"I did not venture to penetrate into them, from an apprehenſion of the monſters and the reptiles. The tiger is very common; and there are few plantations where he does not ſometimes ſeize and bear away the dogs in the very encloſure of the cottages: in any place where there are cattle, his viſits are ſtill more frequent. It is in vain that I am aſſured he will not attack man, but, on the contrary, that he will fly from him; I have no deſire to meet ſuch a ſavage animal. The ſerpents and adders are ſtill more common. There is every ſpecies of them, and ſome that are of an enormous ſize. They very ſeldom attack man; but if any one ſhould be ſo unfortunate as to put his foot upon them, their bite is the probable conſequence, and is attended with great danger. I am ready to acknowledge that I felt very much alarmed both at tigers and ſerpents, though they had never done me any injury. I had no ſuſpicion whatever of the Directory and my colleagues; nevertheleſs, it is known to every one how they have treated me.

"I often met numerous companies of monkeys, particularly of that ſmall ſpecies which are called *tamarin*; and I amuſed myſelf with their gracefulneſs and activity. They made all kinds of grimaces, and ſeemed to delight in ſpringing from branch to branch, always preferring thoſe which were the moſt flexible. They ſometimes ſuſpended themſelves by their tails, and continued ſwinging at their eaſe till they were ſeized by ſome other vagary. Whenever I clapped my hands, they inſtantly took to a precipitate flight.

"But the moſt agreeable of my rencontres was that of the birds, and particularly of the colibri and the fly-bird. Nothing can be more beauti-

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ful than the raiment with which Nature has clothed them; ſhe has laviſhed on them the moſt lively, brilliant, and happily aſſorted colours. I contemplated them with delight, and paſſed whole hours in admiring them; but no ſooner did they begin to ſing, than my tranſport ceaſed. Nothing can be more diſagreeable than their note, which has ſomething in it of the ſcream of the perroquet. There are many other birds who do not poſſeſs a ſuperior melody." *P.* 177.

THE NEGROES.

"THE negro is conſidered with great prejudice, and I believe with equal injuſtice, at Cayenne. He paſſes for a being of a claſs inferior to ours in intelligence, and ſuperior in wickedneſs; the natural enemy of the white people, and incapable of being made uſeful to the colonies, but in a ſtate of ſlavery. Theſe different charges demand a diſtinct examination.

"It is certain that the negro, on a ſuperficial view of him, is extremely ignorant. The moſt common and ſimple ideas can, with great difficulty, penetrate his brain. He carries his ſuperſtition to an inconceivable height. He is firmly perſuaded that ſome of his comrades can, when they pleaſe, produce certain prodigies, more or leſs extraordinary, to gratify his love of pleaſure, or to ſatisfy his deſire of vengeance. He will not paſs by a place, during the night, where any one has been buried within the ſpace of a year. No conſideration would induce him to gather the fruit from a tree on which the *piayes* had been placed: a kind of charm, that conſiſts of a packet filled with hair, feathers, old linen, a dead bird, &c. Many perſons employ this packet to preſerve their trees from robbery. But all this ignorance, &c. in the negro, is nothing more than the want of inſtruction; and the ſame cauſe would produce ſimilar effects in other men. Sorcerers have been very much in faſhion among us; nay, I am not certain if it has entirely paſſed away in the country villages of France: but this I know, that human beings are to be found in them who are as ignorant and as ſuperſtitious as the negroes. Theſe poor people have not the ſame means of inſtruction; while thoſe who have it in their power to improve them, keep them in error for their own particular advantage. As a proof that ignorance and ſuperſtition are not more inherent in their ſpecies than in ours, there is among them a certain individual who, without any aid but his own native powers, is very ſuperior on theſe two points to many of us. I do not know if we can make them profound reaſoners; but this I know, that we can make them reaſonable beings. I have ſeen them, in matters which concerned their intereſts, or made a part of their occupations, conduct themſelves with ſuperior intelligence. They calculated with reflection, and executed with dexterity.

"The opinion which the inhabitants of Cayenne have formed of this perverſe diſpoſition, proceeds from a ſpirit of exaggeration; nor do I believe that we ſhould be great gainers on a compariſon with them, in point of natural diſpoſition. They form a general judgment of them from certain particular acts, and I am ready to acknowledge that their conduct is ſometimes revolting to humanity. They are, in common with the inhabitants of hot countries, violent and revengeful; and in the abject ſtate in which they exiſt, and not being reſtrained by any of thoſe conſiderations which have a powerful influence on men who regard the public opinion, they abandon themſelves to all the impetuoſity of their paſſions, and plunge into the greateſt exceſs. Others who are more phlegmatic, oftentimes do much more injury, though with leſs noiſe. But, I repeat it, theſe are only particular acts; and if ſome of them manifeſt a malicious diſpoſition, there are others who conduct themſelves well. I have ſeen among them good huſbands, good fathers, good ſervants, as well as men rigidly exact in fulfilling all their duties and engagements.

"Their antipathy to the white people cannot be denied, though not without exceptions. Whether it ariſes from a jealouſy of that ſuperiority which our attainments give us in ſocial life, in luxurious enjoyments, and local accommodations; or whether it is from a deſire of revenging that ſtate of ſlavery in which they have exiſted, or the cruelties which have been ſometimes exerciſed on them, though they have been greatly exaggerated; or whether it is from the fear of returning to their former ſtate of ſlavery; it

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is certain that they do not love the white people, and that they apply themſelves to do them miſchief. If they perceive that any thing belonging to a coloniſt is likely to receive injury or to periſh, they will take care not to inform him of the circumſtance, and do every thing in their power to retard his diſcovery of it. If they receive any orders from him which they believe may tend to advance his intereſts, they will execute them with indifference and awkwardneſs. If they foreſee that ſuch orders may prove injurious to him, they will obey them with zeal and activity. They do not make open war againſt him, becauſe they dare not; but they harbour the moſt miſchievous intentions, which they never fail to put in practice, when they can do it without expoſing themſelves: in ſhort, they are influenced by a party ſpirit. They act in concert, paſs whole nights in conſultation, while the coloniſt ſleeps, to make their reciprocal communications, and to form regular plans. Their firſt queſtion, when they meet one another, or the white people, is, What news? but it is in vain that you put the ſame queſtion to them; they will not communicate any thing which they may know, or they will return a fallacious anſwer.

"The ſovereign happineſs of the negroes, and perhaps of all mankind, is repoſe. To do nothing is their ſupreme felicity. With us, the wants, the conveniencies of life, and ambition, impel to an active ſtate of exiſtence; while with them, the two latter objects are wholly unknown, and the former lies within a very ſmall compaſs: beſides, they go naked, and have therefore no occaſion to labour in order to procure clothes. The men wear nothing but a kind of girdle, called *calimbé*, which is made either of linen or of ſtuff, about three fingers in breadth. They wear this from a ſentiment of modeſty, whoſe object, however, is very imperfectly fulfilled. The women have round their waiſt a piece of linen or ſtuff called *camiſa*, about the ſize of a moderate napkin, which falls down to their knees; but from their waiſt upwards they are entirely naked. Nor does their habitation require any great expenſe: it is a cabin conſtructed, like thoſe of the exiles, of a few pieces of timber and the foliage of trees, which are eaſily procured. As to their food, that is readily procured by hunting and fiſhing. They uſe their arrows with great ſkill and addreſs; and if it ſhould be neceſſary to add to their ſtore of proviſions, for thoſe who wiſh to lead a more ſedentary life, the labour of fourteen days will produce ſufficient for the whole year, by employing it in planting the manioc or the banana, which form the real bread-fruit of this colony.

"The indulgence of their paſſions is not more coſtly. Women and dancing are their only objects, and to which they abandon themſelves with a licentious ardour. It is not with money that they purchaſe the favours of their miſtreſſes; ſimple nature pays all the expenſe. As to the dance, that is obtained at the ſame eaſy rate. The moon or the ſtars furniſh the illuminations, a fountain or the neighbouring ciſtern provides the refreſhments, and the orcheſtra is compoſed of one or two tambourins, which they all ſtrike in their turns. There cannot well be a more violent exerciſe than that of the minſtrels, in whoſe art it is a point of honour to excel. I have ſeen negroes ſtrike theſe tambourins with ſuch force and activity, that they were bathed in ſweat, and ſeized with convulſions; nor did they ceaſe till their ſtrength was entirely gone, and they fell down faint and exhauſted. Their dances are full of animation, and in perfect meaſures; but I could not remain long at theſe feſtivities, as ſuch a rank odour exhaled from their bodies as to be abſolutely intolerable.

"When the decree that gave liberty to the blacks arrived at Cayenne, and was haſtily proclaimed, without being preceded by any of thoſe meaſures which prudence required, to prevent the dangerous effects of a too ſudden liberation, the negroes abandoned themſelves to the moſt immoderate joy, and particularly to dancing, ſo that many of them died from their exceſſive indulgence. They were found in great numbers extended in the ſtreets and roads, in ſuch a weak and exhauſted ſtate, that it was with difficulty ſome of them were recovered. This circumſtance was frequently atteſted to me at Cayenne, and from the violent delight with which I have ſeen them dance, I am diſpoſed to believe it.

"It was naturally to be expected that a ceſſation from all kinds of labour would immediately reſult from the abolition of ſlavery. The negroes work

work but to provide for their wants, and when thoſe are ſupplied they ceaſe to work. It was, however, ſoon diſcovered, that though this ſtate is very natural to the negroes, it muſt be very prejudicial to the colony: and regulations were made to attach them to certain plantations, according to the will of the agent, and to ſubject them to a courſe of labour, of which the nature, the meaſure, and the recompenſe, was adjuſted. The puniſhment on the part of the planter was reduced to diminution of their wages, and, in certain caſes, to the priſon of the plantation. For offences of greater criminality the agent reſerved to himſelf the power of puniſhing them with greater ſeverity, and to ſend them to the houſe of correction called *la Franchiſe*.

"This regulation was an infringement of the principle of liberty; for by what law were the negroes more compellable to work than the whites? The conſtitution rendered them all equal, and they ought to be treated with equality. It is not, however, that I am diſpoſed to blame this regulation, it was abſolutely indiſpenſable; nor am I ſorry to have an opportunity of remarking, that what is ſometimes very beautiful and ſublime in theory, often meets with inſuperable obſtacles in practice. What then has reſulted from this intermediate ſtate between freedom and ſlavery? It has ended in the ruin of the colony and the coloniſts, and the manifeſt diſadvantage of the negroes, who are in a much worſe ſituation than they were previous to the revolution.

"I cannot aſcertain, with the neceſſary degree of preciſion, the ſtate of the exports of the colony at the commencement of the revolution; but it is well known that they have been much diminiſhed ſince the blacks had obtained their liberty. This colony had, with difficulty, juſt got the better of that languid ſtate which had been occaſioned by the unſucceſsful operation of 1763, by the prejudices which grew out of it, and by its bad adminiſtration: Malouet, who had been the intendant of it, had become much better acquainted with it than any of his predeceſſors. He went himſelf to Surinam, in order to acquire the knowledge neceſſary for his ſituation, and had brought back a very experienced and able man, who knew how to give an impulſe to emulation, and to direct labour to the moſt uſeful objects. Already the fortunes of individuals, which, in a well-regulated ſtate, make the fortune of the public, began to advance:—but the revolution, the decree of liberty, the agents appeared, and every thing was eclipſed. From that time this colony has been ſupported only by the prizes made of Dutch ſhips previous to the peace; afterwards on thoſe of Portugal, and always on thoſe of neutral powers and allies. At preſent, when this reſource has failed, and the agents have applied to their own advantage whatever it had produced, Cayenne finds itſelf in a moſt miſerable condition.

"The coloniſts have fallen with the place which they inhabit. In the firſt place, the requiſitions and paper-money had given a ſhock to their fortunes, when the abolition of ſlavery, and the ceſſation from all work, which was for ſome time the conſequence of it, completed their ruin. Since the regulation the negroes have, in ſome degree, returned to their employments; but two great obſtacles, inſeparable from the liberty of the blacks, oppoſed themſelves to every kind of proſperity. The firſt is the precarious ſtate of property; not that the coloniſt is deprived of his lands, but, as I have already ſaid, land receives all its value from the hands that cultivate it, and thoſe hands are at the command of the agent; for, as it ſuits his caprice, he can put a plantation under an interdict, by taking away all the blacks and placing them elſewhere.—Such a poſſibility alone is ſufficient to prevent the coloniſts from forming eſtabliſhments which require an advance of capital, that may never be permitted to make any adequate returns. The fancy or the reſentment of the agent of government may produce this effect. They work by the day, and make the beſt of whatever is in a ſtate of culture, but do not engage in any new ſpeculation. The ſecond is the very limited power of the coloniſt over the negroes. The latter know that the *maximum* of their puniſhment is a priſon; and the greater part of them prefer a priſon to labour. It is true, indeed, that on obſtinately refuſing to fulfil the taſk he has undertaken, or for any more weighty offence, complaint may be made to the agent, who may ſend the idle and inſolent negro to the houſe of correction; but the coloniſt is deprived, in the mean

time, of the labour of his hired tenant. Indeed, inconceivable as it may be, it often happens, that the negro, after he has received his punishment, is sent to another plantation, without being replaced in the service of the person who complained against him —What then is the consequence?—The question is readily answered:—the coloniſt ſuffers every thing from the negro; as he would rather that he ſhould work little, or work ill, than be altogether deprived of him.—The condition of a coloniſt, therefore, is become full of trouble and diſquietude. I have ſeen ſome of them who have curſed it from the bottom of their hearts.

"Nor do the negroes poſſeſs a ſuperior degree of contentment. What, they exclaim, is the trifling retribution which is given to us, of no more than from three to ſix ſous a day, in a country where every thing is ſo dear? Since we are obliged to work, we ought, at leaſt, to receive reaſonable wages. Formerly, it is true, we received nothing, but then we had nothing to pay: our maſters nouriſhed and took the greateſt care of our infants, as well as of our wives and ourſelves, in the maladies to which we are ſo frequently ſubject; becauſe they had an intereſt in our preſervation. But now we muſt feed and take care of our children, and look to our wives and ourſelves when ſickneſs overtakes us. We know that there muſt be an hoſpital on every plantation, but we no longer find the ſame care and the ſame remedies; and when we grow old and infirm, we are left to periſh.—I have ſeen many of them who regretted the abolition of ſlavery; and I well know, that the depopulation of this claſs is much greater than before the revolution, not from the want of freſh ſupplies, but from actual effective loſs.

"Hence I draw the following concluſion:—that the negro who has neither wants nor ambition will never work but by compulſion; that all regulation on this ſubject will be ineffectual, and never attain the object it propoſes:—in one word, that the liberty of the blacks is incompatible with the proſperity of the colonies. At the ſame time, I would not have it imagined that I invite government to give them back their irons, and to recommence the traffic.——Such a thought does not poſſeſs a place in my mind. We muſt not ſuffer ourſelves to be ſeduced by the example of the Greeks and Romans, ſo often and ſo unjuſtly the ſubject of eulogium, who did not only reduce the blacks, but even thoſe of their own complexion, to ſlavery; and who exerciſed over them an arbitrary power of life and death. Let us not believe thoſe who tell us that we ſave the lives of thoſe unfortunate beings whom we go to Africa to purchaſe, ſince they were priſoners of war whom their conquerors would exterminate, if they did not entertain the hope of ſelling them to us. Let us ſubmit to certain privations, and leave men free; let us, above all things, leave them in thoſe climates where nature has produced them.—Such are the injunctions of humanity; but politics and the balance of trade..... Theſe expreſſions are too profound for me; and I leave to others the taſk of diſcuſſing the important queſtions which they preſent." *P.* 180.

LXXIV. *Dallaway's Anecdotes of the Arts in England.* (Concluded from p. 341.)

MISSALS—STAINED GLASS.

"THE art of illuminating on vellum is of high antiquity in this kingdom. Miſſals were made ſplendid, according to the dignity of the poſſeſſor, by the moſt delicate limnings in miniature, which were not confined to ſcriptural ſubjects, but frequently exhibited the portrait of the owner, and his immediate relatives. There are ſeveral in the cabinet at Norfolk Houſe, of extreme curioſity and value.

"In the later centuries, ſimilar embelliſhments were added to chronicles and tranſlations of the claſſics, when they were compiled by command of a noble patron. A manuſcript of the fourteenth century, now in the Bodleian library, is probably the moſt ancient in England of equal merit. It is a chronicle of the wars of the victorious Edward III. In the Britiſh Muſeum is preſerved a manuſcript Froiſſart, with numerous and highly finiſhed illuminations. The Miſſal given by Jacquetta Dutcheſs of Bedford, to her nephew Henry VI. was in the poſſeſſion of the late Dutcheſs of Portland. Books preſented to the univerſity of Oxford by Humphrey Duke of Glouceſter, and John Tiptoft Earl of Worceſter,

ceſter, as well for general literature as the ſervice of the church, abounded in theſe exquiſite ſpecimens of ancient art. Biſhops Grey and Fleming, in particular, procured many for the libraries which they founded in the colleges of Balliol and Lincoln, moſt of which are known only upon record *.

"At Lambeth is a MS. with the portraits of Edward IV. his queen, and ſon, Earl Rivers, and Caxton the printer. When theſe MSS. contain the likeneſſes of their royal or noble proprietors, it gives them a conſiderable value, as no other portraits of equal authenticity exiſted at that time, and there is ſufficient evidence that they were genuine. Nor were they confined to MSS. In the Tully's Epiſtles, printed by John Fauſt, the inventor, now in the library of Emanuel College, Cambridge, are portraits of Henry VIII. when a boy, and his preceptor. That of Richard II. at Weſtminſter, and another given by James II. to Lord Caſtlemaine, now at Wilton, are probably the moſt ancient and genuine.

"When portraits have been ſtained on glaſs, although many have been demoliſhed, they have had a better chance for preſervation. In ſeveral churches a genealogical ſeries of their benefactors was placed, ſome of which have ſurvived, in an imperfect ſtate, the decays of time and the rage of fanatics. Mr. Walpole denominated two crowned heads, which he procured, Henry III. and his queen; and many with curled hair and forked beards, are ſaid to repreſent the Edwards, Richard II. and Henry IV. from that faſhion prevalent in their reigns, and remarkable on their coins; which circumſtance, on a curſory view, may juſtify the ſurmiſe. Generally ſpeaking, the whole-length figures with crowns and ſceptres are imaginary Jewiſh monarchs, connected with ſome ſcriptural hiſtory; they are univerſally ſo when exhibited in profile. Biſhops and abbots may be ſuppoſed to be portraits by fair conjecture; they are diſtinguiſhed by their holding the croſier in their right or left hand, the former only performing the office of benediction.

"A difficulty occurs in fixing with ſatisfaction the true æra of hiſtorical ſubjects on ſtained glaſs, which are not abſolutely ſcriptural." *P.* 425.

"In the church of the priory of Little Malvern, in Worceſterſhire, are the portraits of Edward IV. his queen, Elizabeth of York, and her ſiſters, which are likewiſe ſeen in a window contributed by that monarch to Canterbury cathedral. Sir Reginald Bray, a favourite of Henry VII. and a connoiſſeur in architecture, who ſuperintended his chapels at Weſtminſter, and St. George, at Windſor, built likewiſe the church of Great Malvern, where he placed the portraits of Henry VII. his queen, Prince Arthur, J. Savage, T. Lovell, and himſelf, all in ſurcoats of arms, and very richly executed, as we may judge from thoſe of Prince Arthur and Sir R. Bray, which only have eſcaped demolition.

* "The only relique of Duke Humphrey's donation is a Valerius Maximus, very finely illuminated. Warton's Eng. Poet. v. ii. p. 45–50; and in v. ii. p. 400, is an account of Engliſhmen who tranſcribed the MSS. at Rome and Florence. The Florentines were the moſt excellent illuminators, of which there are innumerable ſpecimens in their libraries, particularly of their own poet Dante, in the Laurentian. Michelagnuolo's genius was ſo ſimilar to that of Dante, that he filled the margin of his copy with deſigns, which invaluable book was loſt between Livorno and Civita Vecchia. The princeps editio (Ferrara 1485), the only copy in England, was bought for the king, at Dr. Aſkew's ſale, for 85*l.* Don Giulio Clovio, who died in 1578, at eighty years of age, was the moſt celebrated illuminator. In the Vatican are many MSS. ornamented by him with portraits, retouched by Padre Ramelli, which belonged to the Dukes of Ferrara.

"At Strawberry Hill, Mr. Walpole had Raffaelle's Miſſal, and the book of Pſalms by Giulio Clovio, which latter belonged to Lord Arundel, and was purchaſed at Tarthall by the late Earl of Oxford. It is dated 1537, and was bought at the Dutcheſs of Portland's ſale, by Mr. Walpole, for 169*l.* This admirable artiſt ſpent nine years in finiſhing a picture of Nimrod building the tower of Babel; and an ant ſo incredibly ſmall, that the moſt minute member was as perfect as if drawn of the full ſize. General Oglethorpe gave to Corpus College, Oxford, a Bible in French, finely illuminated."

"The

"The window of St. Margaret's, Weſtminſter, the ſubject of which is the crucifixion, was intended, by the magiſtrates at Dort, as a preſent to Henry VII. whoſe portrait and that of his royal conſort are introduced. So excellent is this performance, that five years were ſpent in completing it. Having been firſt placed in Waltham Abbey, and removed in 1540, by Henry VIII. to the chapel of his palace at New-hall, in Eſſex, it was reſtored by W. Price, for Mr. Conyers, of Copthall, near Epping, and purchaſed for 400*l.* in 1758. The ſeries of windows in the chapel of King's College, Cambridge, each of which exhibits a parallel ſtory from the Old and New Teſtament, are likewiſe of this age. At Balliol College are the Martyrdom of St. Catherine (1529), and the Paſſion, Reſurrection, and Aſcenſion of Chriſt, by an unknown artiſt, but of ſufficient merit to induce the founder of Wadham College to offer 200*l.* for them. Single figures of ſaints and eccleſiaſtics were introduced into England from Normandy, and executed principally in the Low Countries. Stained glaſs was brought from Rouen, in 1317, for Exeter cathedral, the weſt window of which was put up 1390. The cathedral of Saliſbury is ſaid to have been furniſhed with painted and plain glaſs, even in the thirteenth century, ſoon after the erection of that ſplendid pile; and the windows at New College and Merton are certainly contemporary with Edward III.

"The great eaſt window at York was the work of Thomas Thompſon, of Coventry, in the reign of Henry IV. when it is probable that the art had exiſted in England at leaſt for one century. Glaſiers (if they deſerve not the name of artiſts), who compoſed figures and hiſtories, were eſtabliſhed in London, Southwark, Coventry, Briſtol, and York, of whom there are various notices adduced, and agreements with them recited, by Mr. Walpole, in his Anecdotes of Painting.

"I am inclined to think, from the contracts made between benefactors to eccleſiaſtical buildings in the middle centuries after the conqueſt, that the glaſiers furniſhed the ſtained glaſs, which was cut in various ſhapes, and encloſed with lead, as the colours were required. The pattern or deſign from which the windows were compoſed, were firſt given by the ſame artiſts who painted the walls in freſco.

"The ſtained glaſs in the church of Fairford, in Glouceſterſhire, has long been the boaſt of that county. About the year 1492, John Tame, a wealthy merchant of London, took a Spaniſh veſſel bound from a Flemiſh port for South America, laden with this treaſure; and according to the expenſive piety of thoſe days, founded a church of very regular Gothic, for its reception. There are twenty-five of theſe highly embelliſhed windows, the beſt of which is the third, in the north aiſle. The ſubject is the Salutation of the Virgin, in which is a fine architectural perſpective of the temple. The great windows, both eaſt and weſt, retain their original perfection: of the firſt mentioned, the ſubject is Chriſt's triumphant entry into Jeruſalem, in which the effect of the crimſon velvet and gilding is truly ſurpriſing; and the ſtory of the other is the laſt judgment. Gothic fancy has been indulged to the extreme in theſe deſigns, which are at once horrible and ludicrous. So brilliant are the colours, and ſo delicate the drapery of the ſmaller figures in this aſſemblage, that an equally intereſting ſpecimen of ancient art will rarely be found in England, or on the Continent." *P.* 432.

PAINTING—SIR J. REYNOLDS.

"AT Chriſtchurch, the portrait of Robinſon, then biſhop of Kildare (afterward primate of Ireland), dated 1765, was one of the firſt which procured him reputation. The carnations have been more durable than thoſe of the portrait of the Marquis of Granby at Stowe, and of many at Lord Lanſdowne's at Bow Wood *. Two others, of Dr. Nichol, and the preſent archbiſhop of York, are in a ſtronger ſtyle.

* "He was a great experimentaliſt with reſpect to the compoſition of his colours. At firſt, he uſed preparations from vegetables, which he relinquiſhed for minerals. He is known to have purchaſed pictures by Titian or his ſcholars, nd to have ſcraped off the ſeveral layers of colouring, in order to aſcertain it, and diſcover his ſecret. His thinly painted pictures ſtand extremely well, as he Cardinal Beaufort, &c."

Ludowick Hartcamp, a Dutch painter, when reproached for the evanescence of his colours, replied, 'that they 'lasted longer than the money which 'paid for them'." *P.* 477.

THE BOLOGNESE SCHOOL

"IS eminently marked by a grand taste in design, formed upon the antique and the beauties of nature, a flowing outline, a rich disposition, and a touch at once noble and elegant. It acquired a composition of what is excellent and beautiful from the other schools, by a learned selection. The Guise collection can boast some of the fine works of the Caraccis, particularly one of Annibale, who has given 'the 'portraits of his family in a butcher's 'shop, employed in selling meat.'—Their parent was a butcher. There is an anecdote of this picture, that it was painted in order to mortify the pride of Ludovico, his brother, who affected to conceal the meanness of his origin. One day, it was unexpectedly exhibited in the saloon of the Cardinal Farnese, his patron, when surrounded by Roman nobility, of whose notice and society Ludovico was so ambitious. The subject is certainly unpleasing, but the character and colouring are extremely fine. A striking resemblance in the heads will be found to those, engraved from the originals, in the Museum Florentinum. Annibale himself is weighing meat, Ludovico is represented by a soldier who buys it, the old woman is the mother, Francesco is kneeling on a sheep, and Antonio, called 'Gobbo,' on account of his deformity, conceals it by reaching down meat from a hook. In every point of consideration this picture is a great curiosity, and is said to have cost General Guise 1000*l.* sterling, at Naples, where it was removed with the Farnese collection." *P.* 489.

EMINENT COLLECTIONS.

"IT would be difficult to ascertain with precision the date of the first forming of collections, or the acquisition of any single celebrated picture, in the palaces of our nobility. But a task, to which I confess myself incompetent, would be to place them in a scale of comparison with each other. The national taste has not only been greatly improved since the commencement of the present reign; but such has been the influx of the genuine works of the Italian schools, especially that occasioned by the distracted state of the Continent, that the collections, at first so highly estimated, are deprived of their former celebrity. Individual pictures, long praised as originals, must now 'hide their diminished heads' before the originals themselves, which have been alienated from foreign palaces, and have found their way into this kingdom. Formerly, the artists in Italy made the copying various styles of painting a most lucrative employment, which our countrymen, in their ardour for acquisitions in vertù, were better qualified to encourage than to detect .

"To this general observation, however, there were many illustrious exceptions. The Houghton collection, the removal of which can never be sufficiently regretted, consisted of genuine pictures. No expense was withheld, and Sir Andrew Fountaine †, one of the best connoisseurs of his day, assisted Lord Orford in making so perfect a selection ‡.

"Lord Leicester, at Holkham, made some respectable acquisitions in paintings;

* "A noted collector in the reign of George II. consulted Richardson the painter respecting a picture which he had purchased for a Guido. 'There is,' said he, 'little Hugh Howard, who says it is a copy; the next time he says so, 'I will certainly knock him down; now, pray, Mr. Richardson, favour me with 'your candid opinion'!!!"

† "Sir Andrew Fountaine, at Narford in Norfolk, formed a very curious cabinet of earthenware, finished with Arabesques, &c. after designs of Raffaelle, or Giovanni da Udino, his pupil. Raffaelle fell in love with the daughter of a potter, and to gain her affection condescended to paint her father's earthenware. Sir Joshua Reynolds first showed his genius by painting the gallipots of the apothecary to whom he was apprenticed."

‡ "The first work his son, Mr. H. Walpole, published was 'Ædes Walpo-'lianæ,' with a catalogue raisonnée of the pictures. The whole collection contained 232, which were valued at 40,555*l.* but for which George Earl of Orford,

ings; a 'Return from Egypt,' by Rubens, which is a repetition of one at Blenheim; 'Joseph and Potiphar's 'wife,' Guido; 'Magdalene in a 'cave,' Parmegiano—the pallid countenance of a 'Religieule,' that fervour of devotion, 'the wrapt ſoul ſitting in 'the eyes,' are here expreſſed by a perfection of art ſeldom to be found; 'Polyphemus and Galatea,' from Ovid; Ann. Caracci, in freſco. It was purchaſed from the Barbarini palace, of which it was an eminent ornament. 'The Florentines, whilſt 'bathing in the Arno, alarmed by the 'approach of the Piſans.' This moſt curious picture was deſigned by Michelagnuolo, and painted by Vaſari as a preſent to Francis I. Its identity was diſcovered by Mr. Fuſeli, who mentions it in his life of M. Agnuolo, from whence it is quoted in Seward's Anecdotes. 'The Duke D'Arem-'burg,' Vandyck; one of the fineſt pictures, a repetition of which is in Spain. M. De Calonne had the Dutcheſs and her ſon, dated 1634.

"The principal collectors, during the reigns of George I. and II. were Dr. Mead; Sir Luke Schaub; Sir Paul Methuen; Sir Gregory Page; Mr. Child, and Mr. Hoare, the bankers; Field-marſhal Wade; General Guiſe; Frederick Prince of Wales; and the Duke of Norfolk. Theſe pictures, conſiderable in value and number, not unfrequently changed their poſſeſſors; and one collection was formed upon the wrecks of another. How often they have been transferred, and what acceſſion or diminution of price ſuch removals have occaſioned, would compoſe a volume of well-authenticated anecdotes. Declining any particular enumeration or criticiſm, let me only advert incidentally to a few of the beſt works of the great maſters in England, as they occur to my memory.

"Of thoſe attributed to the 'divine 'Raffaelle,' there are few of our collections which do not boaſt one which, in fact, does not belong even to his worſt ſcholar. Lord Orford's 'Conſultation of the Doctors of the 'Church,' undoubtedly his work, is no longer in this country. The Holy Family, at Okeover, and another belonging to Mr. Purling, London, have the moſt general ſuffrage for originality among the connoiſſeurs; yet not without diſſentients. Mr. R. P. Knight has purchaſed a genuine portrait by him, of Cardinal Bibiena, lately brought from Rome, which has no equal, yet imported *.

"At Rainham, Lord Townſhend's Beliſarius is the fineſt work of Salvator Roſa, which has reached us. The Duke of Beaufort has a ſatirical picture, repreſenting the different nations of Europe, by emblematical beaſts, for which he was baniſhed from Rome with diſgrace.

"The moſt perfect picture by Spagnoulet, is in the chapel of Wardour Caſtle. So frequently has the Cornaro family, by Titian, at Northumberland Houſe, been retouched, that it muſt now wave all claim, as the ſuperior of that maſter's works in England. Not only of Lord Exeter's 'Salvator Mun-'di,' by Carlo Dolce, but of his 'Death of Seneca,' by Luca Giordano, there are repetitions of nearly equal pretenſions, at Mr. Methuen's, at Corſham, and Sir L. Blackwell's, at Eaſton, in Norfolk.

"By his preſent Majeſty, juſtly diſtinguiſhed for his knowledge and love of the arts, the collection now at Buckingham Houſe, originally begun by Frederick Prince of Wales, has been increaſed to its preſent excellence. The other collections are at Kenſington, Hampton Court, Windſor, and Kew. There are ſome capital works by two Italian painters of great merit, who have viſited England; Canaletti's Views of London, and ſeveral landſcapes by Franceſco Zucharelli, of Lucca, who had been twice in this kingdom before the year 1771. His beſt pictures are at Hampton Court, and others ſomewhat inferior at

ford, who ſold them to the Empreſs of Ruſſia, received only 36,000*l.* Mr. Walpole obſerved, 'that the nobleſt ſchool of painting which this kingdom ever 'beheld was tranſported almoſt out of the ſight of Europe'."

* "Raffaelle's moſt celebrated work 'the Tranſfiguration,' was ſtolen by the French from the church of the Montorio, at Rome, and afterwards ſunk at ſea. At Kenſington is a drawing in black chalk, by Caſanova, of the ſize of the original, eighteen feet by twelve. At Badminton is a cartoon of the lower part. An excellent copy, ſaid to be by Giulio Romano, has been lately given to Dulwich college."

Windſor,

Windſor, and at Sir R. Worſley's, in the Iſle of Wight. At the Queen's lodge, Windſor, is the interior of the Medici gallery at Florence, by Zoffanii, another moſt ingenious Italian artiſt, whoſe labours were not ſufficiently rewarded to detain him in this country, which he left for the Eaſt Indies.

"Incited by the prevalent example of their ſovereign, ſeveral of the nobility have engaged in the purſuit of this branch of vertù, with a competition both of taſte and expenſe; and the additions they have made, or the collections they have formed, have eclipſed all that had been done by their predeceſſors.

"The late Earl of Bute procured ſome exquiſite ſpecimens of the Flemiſh ſchool, now at Luton, particularly a Feaſt, by Van Harp. Lord Groſvenor, Lord Radnor, at Longford Caſtle, the Duke of Newcaſtle, at Clumber, in Nottinghamſhire, Lord Egremont, Lord Harcourt, at Nuneham, Lord Scarſdale, at Keddleſtone, and Lord Aſhburnham and Mr. Agar, are well known to have extenſive and richly furniſhed galleries. In point of extent only, the laſt mentioned but one, muſt yield a ſuperiority, which it poſſeſſes in every other reſpect. In the whole not more than twenty pictures are included. Each of them is in the great ſtyle of the maſter, eſpecially thoſe by Salvator Roſa, and two of Bacchanals, by Nicholo Pouſſin. There are many other collections in London, and the country reſidences of the nobility, highly deſerving any notice I could take of them; and it muſt be acknowledged, that where the opportunity of becoming acquainted with their reſpective merits has not occurred, the charge of an invidious omiſſion will be ſuperſeded.

"Of private gentlemen, few collections exceed thoſe of Mr. Aufrere*, Mr. Angerſtein, and Mr. Beckford, at Fonthill. A part only of that made by Mr. Hope, of Amſterdam, has been brought by him to London. He has the 'Woman taken in Adultery,' and a 'Landſcape of the Deluge,' by Rubens; another by Salvator Roſa; a Magdalene, by Guido; and a moſt choice cabinet of Flemiſh pictures, exquiſitely finiſhed, by Van Huyſſum, Weenix, Gerard Dow, and Vanderweriff.

"The ſame circumſtances which have occaſioned their removal to England, have led to our poſſeſſion of the Orleans collection by a purchaſe, which reflects infinite credit upon the ſpirit and taſte of thoſe noblemen who undertook it. That ſumptuous aſſemblage of pictures is well known to have owed its origin to the Regent Orleans, and his miniſter Cardinal Richlieu, and its diſperſion to his late degenerate ſucceſſor. The laſt Duke mortgaged them to Walquier, of Bruſſels, and M. la Borde, of whom they were jointly purchaſed for 43,500*l.* by the Duke of Bridgewater, the Earl of Carliſle, and Lord Gower, under the management of Mr. Bryan, in 1796. After having been publicly exhibited, they were diſpoſed of, in 1799, by private contract; and the remainder by auction, in the next year. The whole contained 296 pictures, and it is ſaid, that the noble adventurers were indemnified, beſide their retention of ſome of the fineſt of them, without price. Every true virtuoſo will rejoice in this event, which will reconcile him to the loſs of the Houghton collection, and place this nation high amongſt the patrons of the arts †." *P.* 507.

LXXV.

* "Mr. Aufrere, at Chelſea, has about 150 pictures, of which the moſt remarkable are the Seven Works of Mercy, by Sebaſtian Bourdone; ſix, by the Pouſſins; a Ripoſo, by Albano; and the Marriage of St. Catherine, by Correggio and Parmegiano; Mater Doloroſa, and a Boy playing on a Lute, by Guido, &c. Mr. Angerſtein is poſſeſſed of the 'Reſurrection of Lazarus,' by Sebaſtian del Piombo, and the outlines by Michelagnuolo, from the Orleans collection, for which he gave 3500*l.* He has likewiſe the fineſt cattle-piece, by Cuyp, in England, and St. Ambroſe refuſing the Sacrament to the Emperor Theodoſius, by Rubens or Vandyke, which he purchaſed of Mr. Elwyn for 1500*l.*

"Mr. Beckford has given 6000*l.* for the two famous landſcapes by C. Loraine, which were eſteemed the firſt in Rome, when in the Altieri palace. See Vaſi, &c."

† "The Duke of Bridgewater has ſome of the moſt capital by Titian and Giulio Romano; Lord Carliſle, Raffaelle's Holy Family, the dead Chriſt with

LXXV. *The New Picture of Paris.* By M. MERCIER. Tranſlated from the French. 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 486. 16s. *Symonds.*

EXTRACTS.

BONNET-ROUGE,

"THE ſtandard of Jacobin perfection! This ridiculous dreſs was adopted by a fooliſh kind of a fellow, a repreſentative of the people, who wore it conſtantly on his head. He attempted to ſpeak one day at the tribune without taking off his cap. The *Coté droit* was angry, upon which he took his red cap, and placed it on the buſt of Marat: this *tour d'eſprit* had been whiſpered to him by ſome byſtander.

"The aſſaſſins, who, after having committed their atrocious deeds under the name of patriots in 1793, continued their crimes after Thermidor under the banners of ex-royalty, were deſirous of making the *bonnet-rouge* the French head-dreſs; no objection was made to the cap, as the enſign of liberty, but a very ſtrong one to its colour, the emblem of blood. The cap was hoiſted at every theatre, and covered every head in the revolutionary committees. Under the influence of this red cap, the extravagant conſtitution of 1793 was compoſed. It was the ſignal of anarchy, the helmet of Henriot, the diadem of Chaumette. The Montagnard party, without abſolutely admitting or rejecting it, were pleaſed at ſeeing it worn by their executioners, as an ornament which portended nothing gay.

"The revolutionary women, known by the name of the furies of the guillotine, paraded through Paris dreſſed in this cap, and preſented an addreſs to offer to mount guard, to ſerve the artillery while their huſbands went to fight the enemies of the republic. This extravagance was applauded with enthuſiaſm by all the wearers of red caps.

"Chabot, that odious Capuchin, who came one day to the Convention in the filthy dreſs of the Sans-culottes, his breaſt uncovered, his legs naked, in wooden ſhoes, held the red cap ſhameleſsly in his hand. It was under his auſpices that the Commune demanded the abrogation of the martial law, in order to ſubſtitute a ſyſtem of aſſaſſination which was to mow down without diſtinction the poor and the rich, all who adhered to the principles of juſtice and virtue, and thereby realize the project of the famous Marat, in cutting off two hundred and fifty thouſand heads.

"This *bonnet-rouge* was a kind of banner againſt the Federaliſts. Federaliſm was a fable invented for the purpoſe of making the impriſoned deputies reſponſible for all the misfortunes of which news arrived every inſtant at the Convention. A multitude of ſections and of communes around Paris marched in proceſſion through the hall of the Convention, drums beating, and crying out, *Vivent les Sans-cullottes! Vive le bonnet-rouge!* It was after theſe vociferations, that the Montagnard party decreed that all the arreſted deputies ſhould be transferred into a national houſe, from whence they only came out to go to the ſcaffold.

"A member of the General Revolutionary Council uſed to ſleep in his red cap, and inſulted every one who did not wear it. He was called James Roux, an apoſtate prieſt, who charged himſelf with conducting Louis the XVIth to puniſhment, inſtead of the executioner, who was ſatisfied to wait for his victim at the ſcaffold. He was ſtill more ferocious and more incendiary than his colleagues, ſo much that he even terrified them. He diſhonoured the *bonnet-rouge*: by degrees the moſt exaggerated bluſhed at this emblem; it did not diſappear altogether, but remained mixt with the three colours. We ſee it ſtill at many of the theatres." *Vol.* i. *p.* 83.

PRESENCE OF MIND IN A YOUNG MAN.

"I KNEW him. On the terrible night of the 2d of September he expected to be murdered. He had already heard ſeveral plaintive cries. At eleven o'clock in the evening the

the four Marys, by Annibale Caracci, and Titian's Venus; and Lord Gower, the 'Noli me tangere,' by Agoſtino Caracci, and Pouſſin's Seven Sacraments, amongſt others."

dogs

dogs barked very much, the hoarſe voice of the turnkey echoed through the priſon, ſilence took place: it was in the priſon of the Chatelet. Vociferations were heard in the ſtreet of *Vive la nation!* This cry excited the greateſt joy among the priſoners, who took it into their heads that they were going to ſend them to the frontiers, and they exclaimed with all their might, *Vive la nation! Let us go to the frontiers!*

"A new ſilence took place; immediately the barking of the dogs redoubled; the aſſaſſins open the wicket, and enter the court all bloody, with their ſabres in their hands; the priſoners hear the bolts undraw; ſeven or eight phantoms make their appearance, covered with blood, as well as the ſwords with which they were armed; with a hideous voice they order their victims to go out. A turnkey walks about with a penſive air, the young man throws himſelf at his feet, and aſks his life; the man, though naturally hard, could not help ſhedding tears. The priſoner was dragged down between the two wickets, where on one ſide he ſaw the cannibals, armed with ſabres and pikes, all red, rage painted on their viſages, and waiting only the ſignal to ſtrike; on the other ſide, a counter with empty wine-bottles and bloody glaſſes. The commiſſaries were ſtanding, and aſking the priſoners their names, after which they made them paſs out through the wicket, where they were aſſaſſinated, and their laſt groans were always followed by repeated cries of *Vive la nation!* Their piercing ſhrieks overwhelmed the miſerable victims who were waiting for their turn. Sometimes they were not even ſuffered to explain themſelves, the horrible voice of the commiſſary pronouncing theſe words, *Take him away.* My young man was about to be ſtruck, when he told the aſſaſſins that he was there for debt, and if they took away his life, they would at the ſame time deprive him of the pleaſure of paying his creditors: all the murderers exclaimed, *It is juſt, he muſt not be killed!* and he was put on one ſide with the ſmall number of thoſe who eſcaped their fury.

"The young man told me, that they continued their murders till four in the morning; that he heard one of the chiefs of the aſſaſſins accoſt the gaol-keeper, and ſay to him, ſhowing his ſabre, ſtill reeking, 'Look ye, 'this has laid low more than an hun-'dred, and if thou concealeſt any one, 'I am going to make away with thee.' The gaol-keeper anſwered him with calmneſs, 'I know that my life is in 'thy hands, but I have hid nobody.' My intereſting young man went out amidſt the acclamations of a crowd of ſpectators, and he had ſcarcely gone ten ſteps before he perceived on the bridge three hundred corpſes more or leſs horribly mutilated. Of three hundred and fifty priſoners, ſcarcely thirty eſcaped, half of whom were robbers." *Vol.* i. *p.* 219.

CONSTITUTIONAL PRIEST.

"THIS is the name which was given at the beginning of the revolution to the eccleſiaſtic who had taken the oath to obſerve the civil conſtitution of the clergy, decreed by the National Aſſembly. At the time it exiſted, Madame (the wife of the King's brother) gave notice that ſhe ſhould have every day at dinner, two places for two prieſts who had not taken the civic oath. Her cook being told of the invitation of his miſtreſs, ſaid, 'The bad prieſts have only to come, 'I will give them a better regale than 'they think of; I will write the civic 'oath in little billets, which ſhall be 'enclоſed in the *petits patés*; if they 'will not pronounce the civic oath, 'they ſhall at leaſt ſwallow it'." *Vol.* i. *p.* 286.

WINTER BALLS.

"WINTER balls have already ſucceeded the numerous balls of ſpring and ſummer. Theſe wear another complexion, but theſe pleaſures meet with no interruption. Ball-rooms are to be found every where; for, alas! what contributes to idleneſs amongſt us, idleneſs which preys on the Pariſian (lounging by nature), and which will kill him with his nineteen daily theatres; the reign of idleneſs, I ſay, is as continuous in the great city as the fundamental baſs of an opera orcheſtra.

"Next to money, dancing is actually all that the Pariſian loves, cheriſhes, or rather what he idolizes. Every claſs has its dancing ſociety, both little and great, that is to ſay, rich and poor,

poor, all dance; it is a rage, an univerſal taſte. The Pariſians dance, or rather whirl about, for nothing is more difficult for them than to keep time, and nothing more rare amongſt them than a muſical ear.

"Under the reign of terror, the Pariſians, ſhy and trembling, and not venturing at that time to write a newſpaper, or ſtop a cart, hied to the play-houſes and to clubs, and danced only in public fêtes, and ſometimes around the ſcaffold; immediately all the walls were covered with numerous advertiſements in a ſtyle almoſt academical, announcing balls of all colours, and ſome ſo cheap, that the ſervant-girl might become a ſubſcriber.

"Not a little girl who does not find a gallant to conduct her to theſe ſchools of turbulence and ſeduction. If her lover refuſes to take her to the ball, or does not dance aſſiduouſly enough with her, ſhe turns him off without delay, and vows a woman's hatred, that is, a diſguiſed hatred towards him.

"They dance at the Carmes, the ſcene of the murders of September; at the noviciate of the Jeſuits; at the convent of the Carmelites, in the Marais; at the ſeminary of St. Sulpice; at the convent of the Filles de St. Marie; they dance in three ruined churches of my ſection, and on the pavement of all the tombs which have not yet been taken away. The names of the dead are under the feet of the dancers, who do not perceive it, and who forget that they are treading on graves. They dance alſo in every *guinguette*, on the Boulevards, in the Champs Elyſées, along the quays, dancing in all the cabarets, the haunt of the infanterie, of money-jobbers, who, after having all day long cheated whatever unfortunate individuals fall into their hands, make at length ducks and drakes with the public fortune: dancing, in ſhort, at all the profeſſors of rigadoons, who are called artiſts, the ſame as players.

"There is, however, this difference between them and the modern profeſſors of the *human underſtanding*, that they have never been anxious to diſcover whether, when a man dances, his ſoul was then in his heel or his pineal gland.

"They wake the fiddlers at night. They knock, ring, bawl at the door, as they do at the accoucheur's in preſſing caſes: 'Hallo! quick! get up! 'run! they are waiting for you.' The fiddler rubs his eyes, ſwears what a raſcally trade it is; gets up, dreſſes himſelf, and goes and gains his ſix livres piece, without reckoning three bottles of wine, of which he does not leave a drop.

"All the players on the violin are engaged three weeks beforehand: they gain money in proportion as they go on a long time. Go on a long time: this is the principal merit—they muſt go all night, and the wriſt muſt be unwearied. Why has the violin ſo much credit? I do not know why, but every fiddler is in vogue, provided he can hold the fiddle-ſtick till four in the morning, and that is the main part of the buſineſs, of the art I ſhould ſay. In ſhort, the fiddler ought to be ſtrong in his wriſt, in his arm, to make the cords twang.

"It is ſo ſerious a buſineſs, that there is a promiſe, an engagement in writing, for there is no jeſting with the adminiſtrator of a ball! The perjured fiddler who ſhould break his word, who ſhould diſappoint a dancing *ſociety*, would be held in greater horror than Marat, Drouet, or Babœuf, and beſides, he would be carried before the juſtice of peace." *Vol.* i. *p.* 373.

MOTHERS WHO SUCKLE THEIR CHILDREN.

"IF we are daily employed in tracing the diſtreſſing ſcenes of our revolution, why ſhould we not ſpeak of a ſight at leaſt conſoling, and which is continually before our eyes, that of the multitudes of children ſuckled by their mothers? Wherever I turn my eyes, I meet children in the arms of women, and men themſelves carry about theſe innocent creatures. There is no ſpot of graſs, no walk, no public place, which does not ſwarm with children of every age. Here you ſee youth drawing in a multitude of little carts, infancy in peaceful ſlumber; your ſteps are croſſed by theſe little equipages, but you do not murmur, you are not offended, becauſe you are amply rewarded for the delay by the ſoft ſmile of all theſe lovely and innocent beings. They ſurround you, they preſs your knees, you put them gently by, in order to purſue your way. There, the little girl of ten years old acts the gouvernante, regulates the

conduct of her sisters and cousins; and nothing is more interesting than to contemplate the subordination which reigns amongst ages which we confound with that which we have reached ourselves. Never in any city, at any time of my life, did so great a number of children meet my looks. Maternity has become a pleasure, for our French women all suckle, all pique themselves on being mothers, and all feel that the only good nurse is the true mother.

"Maternity is so much in esteem, that its functions silence every idle remark which malice or slander can invent. The sex is justified for all its weakness, when it acts the careful and attentive nurse. The youngest are those who inspire most respect, so much do the duties of nature, when they are accomplished, impose silence on the babble of our empty moralists. Is not nature already an enormous usurer towards a weak sex? and if the woman did not find in the charms and caresses of a child, not a reward, but an indemnity for her pains, the generation of beings would be soon exhausted.

"It seems, that all the souls who have flown to the frontier for the defence of the country, are re-entered to animate new bodies, and form a focus of republicans, who will enjoy the labours and sacrifices of their ancestors.

"Infants more carefully attended, more free in their motions, and no longer under the rod, display a character of joy and independence which charms the observer. The rod has disappeared, together with the tribe of gross and venal nurses; their little faults are corrected by a word; and it is in this manner that we ought to accustom infancy to be governed only by words.

"Look at these young pupils: at some future day our errors, our faults, and our misfortunes, will furnish them with subjects of conversation; they will be our judges, and the true history of our calamities and of our greatness will fill their mouths.

"The little imperious characters already decide, and assume a tone of republican independence. The shades are perceptible from year to year; and less tormented by pedagogues, they are unrestrained in their amusements; their motions, which are more free, are become also more graceful; they will be better than us, because they have been happier in their cradles.

"In short, the number of children is so great, that in certain walks it surpasses that of grown-up persons. This delicious sight, which evinces the wisdom of regenerating nature, can never weary. If such be the fruit of the revolution (as no one can doubt), it forms also a scene so affecting, that it may serve to soften the dark colours of the picture of our past disasters. But why must it be an eternal law of nature, that good must arise from the source of evil, and that it should flow only from thence? I dare not harbour such a thought; it would corrupt that sentiment of joy which dilates my heart at seeing a new generation springing up, which resemble the swarm of bees issuing from the flanks of the bull of Aristæus; and we, like the instrument of some invisible and powerful arm, must only transiently glide over that path of peace and glory which is the lot of man, as history proves, at the end of great movements and the overthrow of empires." *Vol.* i. *p.* 412.

(To be continued.)

LXXVI. *Colquhoun's Treatise on the Commerce, &c. of the River Thames.*

(Continued from p. 335.)

DEPREDATIONS ON THE WEST INDIA TRADE, ASCERTAINED BY EVIDENCE UPON OATH.

"A COMMITTEE from the body of planters, in a late conference with the Minister, stated the amount of the depredations to be more than 1400*l.* per ship.

"1. It is ascertained by evidence upon oath, that from a Jamaica ship discharged in January 1794, twenty tons of sugar were stolen, in consequence of an agreement between the chief mate, four custom-house and two excise officers then on board, on the one part, and a notorious receiver on the other, who, with the assistance of two light-horsemen, carried on shore about a ton each night.

"2. It also appears on similar evidence, that from a Jamaica ship discharged in March 1794, no less than fifty tons of sugar were plundered in consequence of a previous agreement with

with the mate and five revenue officers. Ten hogsheads were completely emptied, and afterwards stowed in a part of the ship where there had been much leakage, that it might appear the sugar had been washed out during the voyage. The result was, that the loss was borne by the underwriters. From the same ship three whole puncheons of rum were plundered, beside 300 gallons pumped from different casks, all which were sent on shore in skins and bladders. From this ship a large quantity of coffee was also pillaged. The five revenue officers are stated to have each shared 150*l.* independent of the money received by the mate and agents in this iniquitous business.

"3. The same evidence states, that in August 1794, a small vessel arrived in the river from Antigua, with seventy hogsheads of sugar; five hogsheads of which were actually plundered by three tidesmen in conjunction with the mate, and a well-known receiver. The captain happened to be a stranger, who had expressed much apprehension of lumpers, upon which the revenue officers proposed, in order to allay his fears, and prevent his employing lumpers, that they would themselves discharge the cargo. The result was, that while he remained on shore, considering himself as secure, he lost one fourteenth part of the whole.

"4. Upon the same testimony it appears, that in September 1795, the cargo of a Jamaica ship, then discharging at the quays near London bridge, was plundered of ten tons of sugar by the mate and five revenue officers, assisted by two watermen in the service of the customs.

"5. It appears further, by evidence upon oath, that the cargo of a Jamaica ship which discharged on the river in November 1795, was plundered of sugar and other articles of the value of 500*l.* by three custom-house and two excise officers, in conjunction with the captain, mate, and ship's watermen, with others. The whole was landed by a notorious receiver.

"6. In September 1796, five revenue officers, the mate, and a notorious receiver, stole ten tons of sugar, and a whole puncheon of rum, from a vessel from St. Kitt's, which then discharged in the river.

"The information, upon oath, from which these cases are selected, goes a considerable length further, and states many specific facts, strongly demonstrating the shocking corruption of morals among various classes employed in different situations upon the river; and yet these instances are only a slight shade, when compared with the aggregate. Specific details, such as these, are only brought to light by accident, while the great mass is buried in oblivion.

"In October and November 1797, a discovery was made of twelve ships from the West Indies, all discharging about the same time, which had been shockingly plundered. The detection and trial of some of the delinquents afterwards established in evidence the following facts, with respect to the extent of a part of this plunder, which authorized the following estimate of the loss, viz.

	Tons.	Cwt.	Qus.
Jamaica sugar	81	10	2
Leeward Island ditto	45	11	0
	127	1	2

	£.	s.	d.
Loss to the crown at 17*s.* 10*d.* King's duty	2,223	15	3
Loss to ship-owner's freight	1,952	0	0
Loss to ship-master's primage	52	12	0
Loss to merchants' commission	400	0	0
Loss to the planter or owner of the sugar .	7,955	14	0
Total . .	£.11,684	1	3

☞ "Average loss nearly 1000*l.* each ship, exclusive of what was not discovered." *P.* 108.

COAL-TRADE TO THE PORT OF LONDON.

"IT has been already stated, 'that 'the coal-trade employs on an average 'about 418 ships and vessels, which 'make 3676 voyages in the course of 'a year'—'That about 2196 coal-'barges, averaging thirty-three tons, 'are employed in the discharge of 'these vessels, making an aggregate of '91,903 tons'—'That each collier, 'on an average, requires about thir-'teen barges: That 1170 of these craft 'are frequently laden with coals at 'one time, while nearly as many are

'uſed as floating warehouſes, above 'and below bridge, waiting the calls 'of the conſumers, who require a 'monthly ſupply of 300 cargoes of '220 chaldrons each.' That the monthly ſupply being, therefore, 66,000 chaldrons, it is not unlikely that about 50,000 chaldrons (with the exception of times of ſcarcity as at preſent), remain expoſed to depredations on the river all the year round. Indeed, it has clearly been aſcertained, that the plunder of coals is exceſſive, and committed in various ways. Firſt, in the ſhips during the diſcharge, through the medium of the coal-heavers, where the property of the owners, and the public revenue, ſuffer very conſiderably: ſometimes by the connivance, and even (as has appeared in evidence) the conſent of the maſters and mates of colliers, in order to procure the advantage of additional labour, which ought to have been paid for in money; but, more frequently, from the thieving diſpoſition and audacious conduct of the coal-heavers, who being more powerful than the ſhip's crew, have been accuſtomed, in many inſtances, to remove ſuch coals as remained on deck by force: nay, to ſuch a height had theſe nefarious practices gone, previous to the eſtabliſhment of the marine police, that a kind of public market was held at Execution Dock, for the ſale of coals obtained in this way.

"The miſchievous privilege granted to the meter, and the meter's man, of a certain quantity of coals for their private uſe, while it robs the proprietor and the revenue * of a conſiderable ſum of money annually †, eſtabliſhes a precedent, which is pregnant with evils of the greateſt magnitude, as it furniſhes an excuſe for the like illegal indulgence to the coal-heavers, and generates that diſpoſition to pilfer, which has been found to be ſo predominant among this very depraved, but uſeful, and frequently ill-uſed claſs of men; whoſe earnings, if they were provident, and a ſtrict line of rectitude were purſued by all their employers, might ſpeedily place them in very independent ſituations; ſince it appears, that their labour, which is tolerably conſtant, produces from 7*s.* to 18*s.* a day, and ſome few inſtances have occurred, of its extending even to 27*s.* for the labour of fourteen hours.

"Notwithſtanding theſe apparent large earnings of coal-heavers, it is a curious and intereſting fact, that a very conſiderable proportion of theſe hard-working men, even ſince the late advance of the price of their labour, do not, on the average of the year, carry home more than 15*s.* a week for the ſupport of their families. The

	Per London Chaldron. £.	*s.*	*d.*
* "The average coſt of coals free on board at Newcaſtle, is averaged at	0	12	7
The freight to London, light-money, and charges, taken on an average	0	10	6
The duty, 9*s.* per chaldron; charges of entry, 3*d.* per chaldron ‡	0	9	3
The expenſe of the delivery into lighters, including metage, 3*d.* Coal-heavers, 1*s.* 6*d.* Factors' commiſſion, 4*d.* per chaldron	0	2	1
The lighterage	0	1	4
The expenſe from the lighters to the houſe	0	4	9
Total	£.2	0	6

† "Suppoſing the meters and meters' men (about ninety in number) to receive only five buſhels each, as their privilege in every cargo, on an average, the whole would amount to 1020 chaldron.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Loſs to the proprietors, at leaſt 20*s.* per chaldron, including freight	1,020	0	0
Loſs to the revenue, 9*s.* per chaldron	459	0	0
Total	£.1,479	0	0

‡ "The total revenue paid for coals by the conſumers in the metropolis is above 60,000*l.* a year.

coal,

coal-undertakers, about eighteen in number, who are their employers, are either themſelves publicans, or depute perſons who keep alehouſes to act for them; for which labour, inſtead of paying money, they generally receive a premium.

"The coal-heavers (in number about 800) are, of courſe, wholly in the power of about twenty-four publicans, who (with the exception of a very few of the more reputable ones) prefer thoſe who drink moſt liquor; and it is calculated, that they conſume in porter and gin more than one third part of their earnings:—not always from choice but neceſſity; ſince, if the liquor which is ſent them is refuſed, which is generally to the amount of 12*s.* per man for each ſhip, they loſe the favour of their employer, and the preference which he has it in his power to give them; and alſo, the ſubſiſtence-money of 5*s.* a week, advanced them as a temporary loan, for maintenance when out of employment. Under ſuch circumſtances, they are completely in the power of the coal-undertakers, who alſo, beſides the 12*s.* a ſhip for gin, porter, &c. demand and receive (according to the information which they themſelves have ſtated to the author) *one ſhilling and four-pence* from each man in every ſhip diſcharged, in name of commiſſion. Aſſuming this fact to be true, it will appear from the following calculation, that theſe poor people are very hardly dealt with.

	£.	s.	d.
"1. Suppoſing 3676 cargoes to require, on an average, ten men each, paying 1*s.* 4*d.* commiſſion to the coal-undertakers who employ them, or 13*s.* 4*d.* each ſhip; the aggregate ſum thus paid in a year by the body of the coal-heavers, is . .	2,450	13	4
"2. Suppoſing 3676 cargoes diſcharged by ten men each, who ſhall have 12*s.* in liquor, conſiſting of gin and porter, &c. ſent them whether required or not, being equal to 6*l.* each cargo; the aggregate taken out of the labour for ſubſiſtence while at work, is	22,056	0	0
Total .	£.24,506	13	4
"Being more than 30*l.* a year, on an average, from each coal-heaver.			
"And, ſuppoſing the twenty-four publicans to gain 25 *per cent.* on their liquors, &c. their profit will amount to	£.	s.	d.
	6,126	13	4
"To which, add the commiſſion before mentioned . .	2,450	13	4
Total eſtimated profit	£.8,577	6	8

"It would ſeem to be worthy of inquiry, under what authority a commiſſion of 13*s.* 4*d.* each ſhip, on an average, is wreſted from theſe poor ignorant people; and how far publicans ought to preſcribe rules, by which men ſhall be compelled to beſot themſelves with an immoderate and unneceſſary portion of ſtrong liquors, while their wives and children at home are often in want of the neceſſaries of life.

"But (to return from this digreſſion) the chief pillage of coals has been from the barges which lie expoſed in every part of the river, from Limehouſe-hole to Weſtminſter bridge. Eſtimating thirteen barges to each cargo, it follows that 47,788 loads muſt be expoſed in the courſe of a year, to *river-pirates*, *night-plunderers*, *lightermen*, *bargemen*, *watermen*, *bumboatmen*, and *Peter-boatmen*; many of whom were accuſtomed to ſupply their wants from theſe barges, while others followed the trade of ſtealing for the purpoſes of ſale: and inſtances have occurred, of river-pirates and others, having cut coal-barges adrift, and conveying them without challenge or ſuſpicion, up and down the river according to the plan ſettled by the receiver, who had carts ready at a convenient landing-place, where the whole have been carried away, while the empty craft was not heard of for ſome days, until picked up drifting with the tide in the river.

"It has not been cuſtomary for thoſe who require fires in winter, while navigating craft in the river, to purchaſe coals for the purpoſe of fuel. When in want, they have generally ſupplied themſelves out of the firſt convenient barge that happened to be acceſſible.

"In this courſe of ſyſtematic depredation, the loſs has been ſuſtained by the purchaſers, wherever coals are bought

bought by what is called the *room*. In all other caſes the injury falls on the coal-merchants, who have ſuffered ſevere and heavy loſſes annually, which nothing but an energetic police pervading the whole river can prevent; and it is preſumed, that the ſame expenſe which they incur by the employment of very inefficient watchmen, amounts at preſent to more than their proportion of a competent police fund.

"On a ſuppoſition, that out of each of the cargoes of the 47,788 coal-barges expoſed to depredation in the courſe of a year, only ſix buſhels on an average are purloined, the aggregate would amount to 7965 chaldrons; which, when added to the plunder and unlawful allowances in the coal-ſhips, ſeems to warrant an opinion, that the annual defalcation cannot amount to leſs than *ſeventy thouſand pounds a year*. In the opinion, however, of ſome intelligent perſons in the trade, the aggregate pillage amounts to double this eſtimate." *P.* 141.

INFERIOR OFFICERS OF THE REVENUE EMPLOYED IN SHIPS AND VESSELS IN THE RIVER THAMES.

"NOTHING but an ardent deſire to ſee a remedy applied to the evils that exiſt, through the medium of a certain proportion of this claſs of men, both as they reſpect his Majeſty's revenue, and the general corruption of morals which prevails, could have incited a developement, over which impulſes ſtrongly operating on the feeling mind, would have otherwiſe drawn a veil.

"Unwilling ſuddenly to credit what might appear to the common obſerver as improbable, and impreſſed with ſentiments favourable to a claſs of individuals apparently controlled by a ſyſtem, at the head of which are men of the pureſt morals, acting zealouſly for the public good; it was not until much unſolicited evidence, confirmed by ſpecific, and in ſome inſtances atrocious acts of criminality, preſſed itſelf upon the attention, that an inveſtigation was attempted of the practices of revenue officers, employed in guarding the public intereſt in ſhips and veſſels, lading and diſcharging in the river Thames.

"But reflecting, that the major part is compoſed of a claſs of men, whoſe original education and habits did not, in many inſtances, afford the means of acquiring correct notions of moral rectitude: that they are in general indigent and needy, with calls upon them which require a more ample income than they poſſeſs; and with wants which go beyond the habits of a common labourer, though with reſources leſs productive: reflecting alſo, that the peculiar nature of the ſyſtem removed them to an almoſt inacceſſible diſtance from the ſource of general ſuperintendence, which could never be approached but through the medium of a gradation of ſubordinate officers, rendering the peculiar merit or demerit of this claſs of men not eaſy to be known, and, therefore, holding out no hopes of benefit or advancement as a reward for integrity, while the fear of loſing an employment in itſelf ſo unproductive, ceaſed to operate as a ſtimulus to good and laudable actions; it ceaſed to be a matter of wonder, that ſuch men ſhould be open to ſeduction, and that a diſpoſition ſhould generally be manifeſted to avail themſelves of every opportunity which occurred of increaſing their emolument, at the expenſe of that revenue which they were bound to protect.

"Hence it would ſeem, that many of this claſs of officers were led on, ſtep by ſtep, urged by the demands of their families, and the increaſing expenſe of livelihood, to acts of turpitude and delinquency, which other inferior officers appointed to control them, and upon whoſe report their fate depended, might be diſpoſed to wink at, from a dread of the expoſure of ſome irregularities in their own conduct, in the acceptance of prohibited fees.

"Standing in this ſituation, where the power of puniſhment extended no farther than diſmiſſion;—where no means of detecting offences exiſted, and where, even in caſes of detection, no proſecutor was called upon to promote the ends of juſtice; where no police attached as an appendage to the ſyſtem, for the purpoſe of overawing perſons in the progreſs of committing offences, they naturally increaſed. The cauſes, therefore, are thus eaſily explained, which have produced the enormous abuſes, whereby the intereſt of the revenue, and the rights of individuals, have been in ſo extenſive a degree invaded.

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"It would appear from information, which has been derived from various ſources, agreeing in all the leading features, that the inferior officers of the revenue may be divided into the following claſſes:—

"1. Thoſe who have been, for a conſiderable length of time, hackneyed in all the abuſes which have prevailed in the river, who carry on their depredations to a great extent, in connexion with criminal receivers, and who alſo contribute, in no ſmall degree, to the ſeduction of mates, and the petty officers, who are ſtrangers, by bringing them over to their nefarious deſigns.—Theſe are generally denominated *game officers*.—Many of this deſcription are apparently correct in their attendance upon duty, and never ſubject themſelves to the imputation of being *negligent officers*. They are moreover in general *acute* and *penetrating*, capable of deviſing and carrying plans of depredation upon the revenue and the individual into execution, while, at the ſame moment, they have the addreſs to make their ſuperior officers believe them honeſt and faithful. As ſoon however as they are placed on board at Graveſend, they begin to lay their plans. If the mate is a ſtranger he is ſounded,—an intimacy is formed, and propoſals are hazarded, for abſtracting a part of the cargo. The mate is reconciled to the meaſure, by the obſervation that it never will be miſſed,—that under the wings of the officers a diſcovery is impoſſible, and that it will put a good deal of money into all their pockets. Preliminaries being thus ſettled, the particular mode of committing the plunder is adjuſted. When the ſhip arrives at her moorings, the copeman or receiver is ſent for, and the prices of the different articles, which are to be diſpoſed of, are ſettled—

Sugar is ſold under the flaſh term of	*Sand*
Coffee	*Beans*
Pimento	*Peaſe*
Rum and other Liquors .	*Vinegar, &c.*

The copemen provide bags, jiggers, bladders, and other conveniences, and when matters are previouſly adjuſted, the plunder goes on to a great extent in the night. In ſome inſtances the three officers of the cuſtoms and two of the exciſe, are ſaid, upon no vague authority, to have pocketted from 30*l.* to 50*l.* each, from the plunder of a ſingle ſhip; beſides what was obtained by the mate and petty officers, and the copeman and his gang of aſſiſtants, which frequently amounted to a very large ſum, as has been already explained in the ſecond chapter, in which the nefarious practices of night plunderers, called *light-horſemen*, are expoſed. The pillage of the cargo generally began about eleven o'clock at night, after all the viſiting boats of the cuſtoms and exciſe had left the ſhip, and continued uſually till five in the morning, making repeated trips on ſhore during this period, and changing the ſignals every time to prevent detection. An inſtance, however, has been ſtated to the author, where this ſpecies of extreme caution did not avail. A prevention boat, belonging to the revenue, rowed up to the bow of a *game ſhip*, when one of the officers aſking, in a low tone of voice, *Are you ready?* the anſwer was in the affirmative; and inſtantly three bags of ſugar were lowered down of nearly *two cwt.* each. On going on board, two more bags were found; but the matter is ſaid to have been huſhed up.

"It will be ſhown in the ſequel, that the police ſurveyors upon the river have completely defeated theſe abominable conſpiracies. They are not confined to hours, but are out the whole night in different directions, watching in particular the ſhips that are ſuſpected.

"2. Officers who merely connive at pillage and plunder, in conſideration of a certain gratuity, and who do not partake themſelves in the general ſpoil.

"3. *Extra officers*, who are only paid 3*s.* per day for about ſix months in the year, while they are employed.—Their fair emolument producing only about 27*l.* a year on an average, they are, with ſome exceptions, always diſpoſed to ſacrifice their integrity and the public intereſt, to what may appear to be for their own advantage; and by conſidering the ſhort duration of the period of their power, ſeldom loſe an opportunity of making the moſt of it, by reſiſting any propoſition, whereby this object can be promoted.

"4. *Glut officers*, who are only ſought for when great fleets arrive, and the port is exceedingly crowded. In this ſituation ſuch, in general, are accepted

bought by what is called the *room*. In all other caſes the injury falls on the coal-merchants, who have ſuffered ſevere and heavy loſſes annually, which nothing but an energetic police pervading the whole river can prevent; and it is preſumed, that the ſame expenſe which they incur by the employment of very inefficient watchmen, amounts at preſent to more than their proportion of a competent police fund.

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Rum and other Liquors .	*Vinegar, &c.*

The copemen provide bags, jiggers, bladders, and other conveniences, and when matters are previouſly adjuſted, the plunder goes on to a great extent in the night. In ſome inſtances the three officers of the cuſtoms and two of the exciſe, are ſaid, upon no vague authority, to have pocketted from 30*l.* to 50*l.* each, from the plunder of a ſingle ſhip; beſides what was obtained by the mate and petty officers, and the copeman and his gang of aſſiſtants, which frequently amounted to a very large ſum, as has been already explained in the ſecond chapter, in which the nefarious practices of night plunderers, called *light-horſemen*, are expoſed. The pillage of the cargo generally began about eleven o'clock at night, after all the viſiting boats of the cuſtoms and exciſe had left the ſhip, and continued uſually till five in the morning, making repeated trips on ſhore during this period, and changing the ſignals every time to prevent detection. An inſtance, however, has been ſtated to the author, where this ſpecies of extreme caution did not avail. A prevention boat, belonging to the revenue, rowed up to the bow of a *game ſhip*, when one of the officers aſking, in a low tone of voice, *Are you ready?* the anſwer was in the affirmative; and inſtantly three bags of ſugar were lowered down of nearly *two cwt.* each. On going on board, two more bags were found; but the matter is ſaid to have been huſhed up.

"It will be ſhown in the ſequel, that the police ſurveyors upon the river have completely defeated theſe abominable conſpiracies. They are not confined to hours, but are out the whole night in different directions, watching in particular the ſhips that are ſuſpected.

"2. Officers who merely connive at pillage and plunder, in conſideration of a certain gratuity, and who do not partake themſelves in the general ſpoil.

"3. *Extra officers*, who are only paid 3*s.* per day for about ſix months in the year, while they are employed.—Their fair emolument producing only about 27*l.* a year on an average, they are, with ſome exceptions, always diſpoſed to ſacrifice their integrity and the public intereſt, to what may appear to be for their own advantage; and by conſidering the ſhort duration of the period of their power, ſeldom loſe an opportunity of making the moſt of it, by reſiſting any propoſition, whereby this object can be promoted.

"4. *Glut officers*, who are only ſought for when great fleets arrive, and the port is exceedingly crowded. In this ſituation ſuch, in general, are accepted

accepted of as can write decently; they are of courſe generally compoſed of illegal lottery inſurance clerks, occaſional waiters at taverns, and other outcaſts, who have no ſettled employment, and who are ſaid to have conſidered ſuch temporary appointments as a kind of harveſt, which they are to render as productive to themſelves (while the power remains) as circumſtances will admit, and of courſe are glad of every opportunity of benefiting themſelves at the expenſe of the merchant and fair traders *.

"5. *Pure officers*, part of whom belong to all the different claſſes; but who are generally *ſcouted* by their aſſociates, while it too frequently happens, from the circumſtances already ſtated, and the intereſt which criminal officers take care to preſerve with their immediate ſuperiors, that no channel exiſts whereby they can convey uſeful information.

"6. *Cuſtom-houſe watermen*. Among this claſs are certainly many impure characters, who have been known to be in connexion with the *game officers* on board the ſhips, for whom they have been generally conſidered as ſafe carriers, becauſe if met by a ſuperior officer the goods were converted immediately into a ſeizure, and conveyed to the cuſtom-houſe: but if they eſcaped notice, the booty was conveyed to the copeman, or receiver.

"An inſtance is ſtated to the author, on an authority which admits of no doubt, that in a ſyſtem of pillage carried on by the mate, and *game revenue officers*, on board of a ſhip outward-bound for Hamburgh, ſome of the gang who were engaged night and day in this buſineſs, conſiſted in ſearchers, watermen, whoſe particular ſituation, as officers, tended in ſome degree to ſhield them from ſuſpicion, though in this reſpect they have not always been ſucceſsful, as convictions have taken place where revenue watermen have been detected with goods without the broad arrow, to denote that they were ſeized, and rowing in a different direction from the cuſtom-houſe." P. 169.

(To be continued.)

LXXVII. *Dr. Currie's Edition of Burns's Works.* (Continued from p. 331.)

EXTRACTS FROM THE LIFE OF BURNS.

"BEFORE Burns was known in Edinburgh, a ſpecimen of his poetry had recommended him to Mr. Miller, of Dalſwinton. Underſtanding that he intended to reſume the life of a farmer, Mr. Miller had invited him in the ſpring of 1787, to view his eſtate in Nithſdale, offering him at the ſame time the choice of any of his farms out of leaſe, at ſuch a rent as Burns and his friends might judge proper. It was not in the nature of Burns to take an undue advantage of the liberality of Mr. Miller. He proceeded in this buſineſs however with more than uſual deliberation. Having made choice of the farm of Ellifland, he employed two of his friends, ſkilled in the value of land, to examine it; and with their approbation offered a rent to Mr. Miller, which was immediately accepted. It was not convenient for Mrs. Burns to remove immediately from Ayrſhire, and our poet therefore took up his reſidence alone at Ellifland to prepare for the reception of his wife and children, who joined him towards the end of the year.

"The ſituation in which Burns now found himſelf was calculated to awaken reflection. The different ſteps he had of late taken, were in their nature highly important, and might be ſaid to have, in ſome meaſure, fixed his deſtiny. He had become a huſband and a father; he had engaged in the management of a conſiderable farm, a difficult and laborious undertaking;

* "The following account of theſe officers is given in the very words of a perſon extremely well informed on the ſubject:—'The Glut make intereſt 'with the ſuperior officers of the cuſtoms, to be employed when large fleets ar-'rive from the Weſt Indies. Their pay is 3*s.* a day while on duty. They have 'ſeldom a farthing in the world when they go on ſhipboard, having ſpent all 'in making intereſt to procure what is called *a good ſhip*, and ſometimes *a good 'birth*——,' that is, a ſituation where, from the abſence of the captain, and the raſcality of the mate, a conſpiracy is formed to plunder the ſhip. Their ſyſtem (to uſe their own language) is *to make hay while the ſun ſhines*; and they have been known to make from 15*l.* to 20*l.* by a ſingle ſhip ſo circumſtanced."

in

in his ſucceſs the happineſs of his family was involved; it was time therefore to abandon the gaiety and diſſipation of which he had been too much enamoured; to ponder ſeriouſly on the paſt, and to form virtuous reſolutions reſpecting the future. That ſuch was actually the ſtate of his mind, the following extract from his common-place book may bear witneſs.

"*Elliſland, Sunday, 14th June* 1788.

"'This is now the third day that I 'have been in this country. "Lord, 'what is man!" What a buſtling 'little bundle of paſſions, appetites, 'ideas, and fancies! And what a ca-'pricious kind of exiſtence he has here! '* * * There is indeed an elſewhere, 'where, as Thomſon ſays, *virtue ſole 'ſurvives.*

"'Tell us, ye dead;
'Will none of you in pity diſcloſe the ſecret,
'What 'tis you are and we muſt ſhortly be?
'————————A little time
'Will make us wiſe as you are, and as cloſe."

"'I am ſuch a coward in life, ſo 'tired of the ſervice, that I would al-'moſt at any time, with Milton's Adam, '"gladly lay me in my mother's lap, 'and be at peace."

"'But a wife and children bind 'me to ſtruggle with the ſtream, till 'ſome ſudden ſquall ſhall overſet the 'ſilly veſſel, or in the liſtleſs return of 'years, its own crazineſs reduce it to 'a wreck. Farewell now to thoſe 'giddy follies, thoſe varniſhed vices, 'which, though half-ſanctified by the 'bewitching levity of wit and humour, 'are at beſt but thriftleſs idling with 'the precious current of exiſtence; 'nay, often poiſoning the whole, that, 'like the plains of Jericho, *the water 'is naught and the grounds barren*; and 'nothing ſhort of a ſupernaturally 'gifted Eliſha can ever after heal the 'evils.

"'Wedlock, the circumſtance that 'buckles me hardeſt to care, if virtue 'and religion were to be any thing with 'me but names, was what in a few 'ſeaſons I muſt have reſolved on; in 'my preſent ſituation it was abſolutely 'neceſſary. Humanity, generoſity, 'honeſt pride of character, juſtice to 'my own happineſs for after-life, ſo 'far as it could depend (which it ſure-'ly will a great deal) on internal peace; 'all theſe joined their warmeſt ſuf-'frages, their moſt powerful ſolicita-'tions, with a rooted attachment, to 'urge the ſtep I have taken. Nor 'have I any reaſon on *her* part to re-'pent it.—I can fancy how, but have 'never ſeen where, I could have made 'a better choice. Come then, let me 'act up to my favourite motto, that 'glorious paſſage in Young—

'"On reaſon build, reſolve,
'That column of true majeſty in man"!'

"Under the impulſe of theſe reflections, Burns immediately engaged in rebuilding the dwelling-houſe on his farm, which, in the ſtate he found it, was inadequate to the accommodation of his family. On this occaſion, he himſelf reſumed at times the occupation of a labourer, and found neither his ſtrength nor his ſkill impaired.—Pleaſed with ſurveying the grounds he was about to cultivate, and with the rearing of a building that ſhould give ſhelter to his wife and children, and, as he fondly hoped, to his own gray hairs, ſentiments of independence buoyed up his mind, pictures of domeſtic content and peace roſe on his imagination; and a few days paſſed away, as he himſelf informs us, the moſt tranquil, if not the happieſt, which he had ever experienced *.

"It

* "Animated ſentiments of any kind, almoſt always gave riſe in our poet to ſome production of his muſe. His ſentiments on this occaſion were in part expreſſed by the following vigorous and characteriſtic, though not very delicate, verſes; they are an imitation of an old ballad.

"I hae a wife o' my ain,
I 'll partake wi' nae-body;
I 'll tak cuckold frae nane,
I'll gie cuckold to nae-body.

"I hae a penny to ſpend,
There—thanks to nae-body;
I hae naething to lend,
I 'll borrow frae nae-body.

"It is to be lamented that, at this critical period of his life, our poet was without the ſociety of his wife and children. A great change had taken place in his ſituation; his old habits were broken; and the new circumſtances in which he was placed, were calculated to give a new direction to his thoughts and conduct *. But his application to the cares and labours of his farm was interrupted by ſeveral viſits to his family in Ayrſhire; and as the diſtance was too great for a ſingle day's journey, he generally ſpent a night at an inn on the road. On ſuch occaſions he ſometimes fell into company, and forgot the reſolutions he had formed. In a little while temptation aſſailed him nearer home.

"His fame naturally drew upon him the attention of his neighbours, and he ſoon formed a general acquaintance in the diſtrict in which he lived. The public voice had now pronounced on the ſubject of his talents; the reception he had met with in Edinburgh had given him the currency which faſhion beſtows; he had ſurmounted the prejudices ariſing from his humble birth; and he was received at the table of the gentlemen of Nithſdale, with welcome, with kindneſs, and even with reſpect. Their ſocial parties too often ſeduced him from his ruſtic labours and his ruſtic fare, overthrew the unſteady fabric of his reſolutions, and inflamed thoſe propenſities which temperance might have weakened, and prudence ultimately ſuppreſſed. It was not long, therefore, before Burns began to view his farm with diſlike and deſpondence, if not with diſguſt.

"Unfortunately, he had for ſeveral years looked to an office in the exciſe as a certain means of livelihood, ſhould his other expectations fail. As has already been mentioned, he had been recommended to the board of exciſe, and had received the inſtruction neceſſary for ſuch a ſituation. He now applied to be employed; and, by the intereſt of Mr. Graham of Fintry, was appointed exciſeman, or, as it is vulgarly called, gauger, of the diſtrict in which he lived. His farm was, after this, in a great meaſure abandoned to ſervants, while he betook himſelf to the duties of his new appointment.

"He might indeed ſtill be ſeen in the ſpring, directing his plough, a labour in which he excelled; or with a white ſheet containing his ſeed-corn ſlung acroſs his ſhoulders, ſtriding with meaſured ſteps along his turned-up furrows, and ſcattering the grain in the earth. But his farm no longer occupied the principal part of his care or his thoughts. It was not at Elliſland that he was now in general to be found. Mounted on horſeback, this high-minded poet was purſuing the defaulters of the revenue, among the hills and vales of Nithſdale, his roving eye wandering over the charms of nature, and *muttering his wayward fancies* as he moved along.

"'I had an adventure with him in 'the year 1790,' ſays Mr. Ramſay, of Ochtertyre, in a letter to the editor, 'when paſſing through Dumfrieſſhire, 'on a tour to the ſouth, with Dr. 'Steuart, of Luſs. Seeing him paſs 'quickly, near Cloſeburn, I ſaid to 'my companion, That is Burns. On 'coming to the inn, the hoſtler told us 'he would be back in a few hours to 'grant permits; that where he met 'with any thing ſeizable, he was no 'better than any other gauger; in any 'thing elſe, that he was perfectly a 'gentleman. After leaving a note to 'be delivered to him on his return, I 'proceeded to his houſe, being curious 'to ſee his Jean, &c. I was much 'pleaſed with his *uxor Sabina qualis*, 'and the poet's modeſt manſion, ſo 'unlike the habitation of ordinary 'ruſtics. In the evening he ſuddenly 'bounced in upon us, and ſaid, as he 'entered, I come, to uſe the words of

"I am nae-body's lord,
I'll be ſlave to nae-body;
I hae a gude braid ſwörd,
I'll tak dunts frae nae-body.

"I'll be merry and free,
I'll be ſad for nae-body:
If nae-body care for me,
I'll care for nae-body."

* "Mrs. Burns was about to be confined in childbed, and the houſe at Elliſland was rebuilding."

'Shakeſpeare,

'Shakeſpeare, *ſtewed in haſte*. In 'fact he had ridden incredibly faſt 'after receiving my note. We fell 'into converſation directly, and ſoon 'got into the *mare magnum* of poetry. 'He told me that he had now gotten a 'ſtory for a drama, which he was to 'call *Rob Macquechan's Elſhon*, from a 'popular ſtory of Robert Bruce being 'defeated on the water of Caern, when 'the heel of his boot having looſened 'in his flight, he applied to Rob Mac-'quechan to fix it; who, to make 'ſure, run his awl nine inches up the 'king's heel. We were now going 'on at a great rate, when Mr. S—— 'popped in his head, which put a ſtop 'to our diſcourſe, which had become 'very intereſting. Yet in a little while 'it was reſumed; and ſuch was the 'force and verſatility of the bard's 'genius, that he made the tears run 'down Mr. S——'s cheeks, albeit un-'uſed to the poetic ſtrain. * * * From 'that time we met no more, and I was 'grieved at the reports of him after-'wards. Poor Burns! we ſhall hard-'ly ever ſee his like again. He was, 'in truth, a ſort of comet in literature, 'irregular in its motions, which did 'not do good proportioned to the 'blaze of light it diſplayed.'

"In the ſummer of 1791, two Engliſh gentlemen, who had before met with him in Edinburgh, paid a viſit to him at Ellisland. On calling at the houſe, they were informed that he had walked out on the banks of the river; and, diſmounting from their horſes, they proceeded in ſearch of him.—On a rock that projected into the ſtream, they ſaw a man employed in angling, of a ſingular appearance. He had a cap made of a fox's ſkin on his head, a looſe great-coat, fixed round him by a belt, from which depended an enormous Highland broad-ſword. It was Burns. He received them with great cordiality, and aſked them to ſhare his humble dinner—an invitation which they accepted. On the table they found boiled beef, with vegetables, and barley-broth, after the manner of Scotland; of which they partook heartily. After dinner the bard told them ingenuouſly that he had no wine to offer them, nothing better than Highland whiſkey, a bottle of which Mrs. Burns ſet on the board. He produced at the ſame time his punch-bowl, made of Inverary marble, and, mixing the ſpirit with water and ſugar, filled their glaſſes, and invited them to drink *. The travellers were in haſte; and beſides, the flavour of the whiſkey to their *ſaſſron* palates, was ſcarcely tolerable; but the generous poet offered them his beſt, and his ardent hoſpitality they found it impoſſible to reſiſt. Burns was in his happieſt mood, and the charms of his converſation were altogether faſcinating. He ranged over a great variety of topics, illuminating whatever he touched. He related the tales of his infancy and of his youth; he recited ſome of the gayeſt and ſome of the tendereſt of his poems; in the wildeſt of his ſtrains of mirth, he threw in ſome touches of melancholy, and ſpread around him the electric emotions of his powerful mind. The Highland whiſkey improved in its flavour; the marble bowl was again and again emptied and repleniſhed; the gueſts of our poet forgot the flight of time, and the dictates of prudence: at the hour of midnight they loſt their way in returning to Dumfries, and could ſcarcely diſtinguiſh it when aſſiſted by the morning's dawn.

"Beſides his duties in the exciſe and his ſocial pleaſures, other circumſtances interfered with the attention of Burns to his farm. He engaged in the formation of a ſociety for purchaſing and circulating books among the farmers of his neighbourhood, of which he undertook the management; and he occupied himſelf occaſionally in compoſing ſongs for the muſical work of Mr. Johnſon, then in the courſe of publication.—Theſe engagements, uſeful and honourable in themſelves, contributed no doubt to the abſtraction of his thoughts from the buſineſs of agriculture.

"The conſequences may be eaſily imagined. Notwithſtanding the uniform prudence and good management of Mrs. Burns, and though his rent was moderate and reaſonable, our poet found it convenient, if not neceſſary, to reſign his farm to Mr. Miller, after having occupied it three years and a half. His office in the exciſe had originally produced about fifty pounds per annum. Having acquitted himſelf to the ſatisfaction of the Board, he had

* "This bowl was made of the ſtone of which Inverary Houſe is built: the manſion of the family of Argyle."

been appointed to a new diſtrict, the emoluments of which roſe to about ſeventy pounds per annum. Hoping to ſupport himſelf and his family on this humble income till promotion ſhould reach him, he diſpoſed of his ſtock and his crop on Elliſland, by public auction, and removed to a ſmall houſe which he had taken in Dumfries, about the end of the year 1791.

"Hitherto Burns, though addicted to exceſs in ſocial parties, had abſtained from the habitual uſe of ſtrong liquors, and his conſtitution had not ſuffered any permanent injury from the irregularities of his conduct. In Dumfries, temptations to *the ſin that ſo eaſily beſet him*, continually preſented themſelves; and his irregularities grew by degrees into habits. Theſe temptations unhappily occurred during his engagements in the buſineſs of his office, as well as during his hours of relaxation; and though he clearly foreſaw the conſequence of yielding to them, his appetites and ſenſations, which could not pervert the dictates of his judgment, finally triumphed over the powers of his will. Yet this victory was not obtained without many obſtinate ſtruggles, and at times temperance and virtue ſeemed to have obtained the maſtery. Beſides his engagements in the exciſe, and the ſociety into which they led, many circumſtances contributed to the melancholy fate of Burns. His great celebrity made him an object of intereſt and curioſity to ſtrangers, and few perſons of cultivated minds paſſed through Dumfries without attempting to ſee our poet, and to enjoy the pleaſure of his converſation. As he could not receive them under his own humble roof, theſe interviews paſſed at the inns of the town, and often terminated in thoſe exceſſes which Burns ſometimes provoked, and was ſeldom able to reſiſt. And among the inhabitants of Dumfries and its vicinity, there were never wanting perſons to ſhare his ſocial pleaſures; to lead or accompany him to the tavern; to partake in the wildeſt ſallies of his wit; to witneſs the ſtrength and the degradation of his genius." *Vol.* i. *p.* 193.

(To be continued.)

LXXVIII. *Original Poems.* By THOMAS SANDERSON. 12mo. pp. 238. 3s. 6d. *Jollie*, Carliſle; *Clarke*, New Bond Street.

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EXTRACTS.

THE PASSING-BELL.

Theſe ſtanzas were written on hearing the paſſing-bell, while in company of ſome young ladies.

" AS ſlowly winds the knell around,
Soft echo'd by each lonely dell,
The hermit greets the circling ſound,
And bids it linger in his cell.

" But why, unwelcome bell, intrude
Thy notes of ſadneſs on mine ear?
Why, with thy mournful tidings, cloud
The ſunſhine of Youth's vernal year?

" What! in the ſhades of Thought and Care,
Muſt I, with penſive boſom, rove,
When ſweetly ſmile the Cumbrian fair,
And all around is mirth and love?

" What ſwain on wither'd leaves will pauſe,
Or to a ſhaded valley run,
When ſweet, on banks of roſes, glows
The morning or meridian ſun?

" Gay Youth and Beauty's radiant day
Will but a while their flow'rs ſupply;
'T is time enough, when theſe decay,
To ſit in ſhade, to think, and ſigh!"

WRITTEN IN 1798, DURING THE ILLUMINATIONS FOR ADMIRAL NELSON'S VICTORY.

" WITH all a Briton's ardour, though I feel
A riſing tranſport for my country's weal;
Though, while around her preſs her num'rous foes,
I praiſe the patriot who ſupports her cauſe;
Though, from her gen'rous ſoil, I would not tear
One laurel-ſprig that Valour planteth there;
And, 'midſt her triumphs, 'midſt the gen'ral blaze,
Though my ruſh-light emit its feeble rays;
Yet ſtill, beneath the pomp of war, I view
Its train of horrors, in their native hue:
The dreadful thunder of the field I hear,
And ſlaughter'd hoſts to Fancy's eye appear!
Some thouſand captives, 'midſt the dungeon's gloom,
In blended ſorrow, mourn their hapleſs doom!
The widow'd mother, robb'd of ev'ry ſtay,
Seeks the lone ſhed, to weep her hours away—
Hangs o'er her infant charge, that calls in vain
For him whoſe valour fought th' embattled plain:
Amidſt this ſad variety of woe,
Does not the breaſt with Nature's feelings glow?
Does not the ſtream of human paſſions roll,
In ſmoother current, o'er the melting ſoul?
Does not Ambition bid its triumphs cloſe,
And, 'midſt the ſcatter'd ruins, make a pauſe?
" O, may no more the brazen trumpet's breath
Sound, o'er the tented field, the charge of death!

No more may hoſtile nations ſtrive to raiſe
A guilty fame on Conqueſt's faithleſs baſe!
But in the arts of Peace be truly great,
And learn what raiſes and what ſinks a ſtate!
Baſe is that pow'r, unſtable, and confin'd,
That riſes on the ruins of mankind!
But that *ſoft principle*, that opes the breaſt
To ev'ry joy that makes another bleſt;
That principle, by which our love is drawn
To blend another's int'reſts with our own,
Will widen all the circle of our joys,
And leſſen ev'ry evil that annoys;
Round the vaſt circuit of the world will roam,
And make, wherever man is found, its home!" *P.* 39.

TO HEALTH.

" GREAT Goddeſs (friend of humankind),
Whoſe bright locks wanton in the wind;
Whoſe looks Contentment's ſmiles adorn,
Soft as the purple bluſh of morn,
Come to the breezy lawn, or ſpangled vale,
When Phœbus gilds yon hoary height
With pureſt ſtreams of orient light,
And o'er autumnal treaſures ſweeps a ſpicy gale.

" Inſpir'd by thee, the ſwains advance
To lead, on village-green, the dance;
Or, in their wildly-woven bow'rs,
With artleſs ſongs beguile the hours;
Or, vig'rous, ſcale the mountain's brow,
Though round the blaſts of winter blow.
The light that beams from Myra's eye
Receives from thee its magic hue;
Ah! ſhouldſt thou bid that maid adieu,
Her form will fade, her roſes die!
" To vernal pomp that gaily ſpreads,
In wild luxuriance, o'er the meads;
To fragrant groves, to woodbine ſhades,
To muſic wild that fills the glades;
To ſcenes where artleſs manners reign;
To morning dews that gem the plain;
To ſhadowy walks, when Cynthia's beams
Play on the murm'ring river's ſtreams,
Thou giv'ſt a pleaſing pow'r;
Without thee ev'ry joy would fade,
The ſtorms of Fate would darker low'r,
And life appear a waſte enwrapt in ſhade!

" Foe to thy gentle joys is Pleaſure's ball,
The orgies of the bacchanalian train,
The revels of the mirth-reſounding hall,
Where wild Confuſion and Intemp'rance reign;
But much thou lov'ſt the daiſied green,
Where Youth with ruſtic garlands crown'd,
And honour'd Age, with brow ſerene,
Bid mingled notes of joy fly o'er the fairy ground!

" Oft, in romantic Seb'ram's vales,
Bluſhing with many a ſummer roſe,
Thou twin'ſt thy blooming wreaths;
Or, where the Eden's ſilver current flows,
Drink'ſt Beaumont's* fragrant gales,
Pure as the breeze that o'er Montpelier breathes!
And oft gilt by the dews of morn,
'Mid Kefwick's mountain-ſcenes thou lov'ſt to rove;
And, from the rock's impending brow,
To hear the hunter's mellow horn,
Sweet, vibrate in the vale below;
While Echo's voice is heard round hill and dale, and grove!
Yes, oft where Nature's fields appear—
The howling waſte, the mountain hoar,
Where frowns the winter's ſtorm,
Th' impending cliff, th' indented ſhore,
The ſhepherds view thy radiant form,
And oft thy ſoft melodious accents hear.

* " A village on the banks of the river Eden, remarkable for the beauty and ſalubrity of its ſituation."

" Whether

" Whether thou love the vale or hill,
The vocal grove, or murm'ring rill,
Haſte to the bow'r where Stella lies,
With whom the bud of Pleaſure dies;
A dim ſuffuſion ſhades each grace,
That wont to revel on her face;
Diſeaſe invades with tyrant pow'r,
And Grief uſurps the ling'ring hour;
Give her again the ſweet repoſe—
O let her tread the fragrant glade,
And bid her beauty's roſe
Bloom like the flowret in the woodland ſhade." *P.* 99.

THE DELIBERATE MOURNER.

" WHEN Hob, as Heav'n ordain'd, had loſt his ſpouſe—
His life's *ſweet comforter* for many a year,
He could not, honeſt fellow! *force* a tear,
But what he thought might anſwer full as well,
With lengthen'd phiz, he gave a hideous yell,
That frighten'd ev'ry ſoul within the houſe!

" Next morning, when his feeling neighbours came,
In hopes to make his *noiſy* grief more tame,
And, by their counſels, do the mourner good,
And reconcile him to affliction's rod,
They found him delving in his *haſty-pud* *—
Pud rough with lumps, and ſolid as a ſod!

" 'We're glad to ſee your ſtomach is ſo fierce,'
(With ſoft congratulating looks they ſpoke;)
'It ſhows your health has gain'd its former courſe,
'And that your honeſt heart is ſtill unbroke!'

" 'Unbroke!' (cried Hob;) 'my ſorrow is ſo loud,
'It rends my very boſom ſtrings in twain;
'To roar, like hogs, at meals, it would be rude,
'But when I've ſupp'd my *gulls* † I'll *cry again*'." *P.* 155.

THE FOX AND THE ASS.

" A PROWLING Fox, on Madam Flavia's ground,
Was forc'd to leave his tail within a trap;
He vows revenge, though ev'ry friend around
Begs him to bear with patience his miſhap:
But all in vain; the paſſion in his breaſt
Burns with too hot a rage to be ſuppreſs'd.

" One day he ſees an Aſs upon the road,
With ſhoulders gall'd by many a cruel load;
'Good friend' (ſays Reynard to the honeſt Aſs),
'How comes it that the world ne'er knows your worth?
'O infamy! to carry pots and glaſs,
'And be a very vagabond on earth!
'And then to make a meal upon a whin ‡!
'Ah! where 's the wonder that you look ſo thin?

" 'Obſerve the haughty Horſe on yonder plain—
'Yon party-colour'd beaſt that 's white and black,
'He 's fed with luſcious graſs, with hay and grain,
'And carries *pretty Miſſes* on his back;
'While your 's the vileſt load—ev'n brooms and mats,
'Pots, diſhes, ſpoons, old rags, and beggars' brats!

" 'Your modeſty, believe me, *Maſter Aſs*,
'Has, from the public eye, conceal'd your merit;
'Why, not a ſingle creature that eats graſs
'Can boaſt ſo fine a ſhape—ſo bold a ſpirit!
'Look at your feet,—what workmanſhip is *there!*
'And when you move,—what majeſty of air!

" 'The way to gain diſtinction is quite clear;
'See! yonder 's Madam Flavia on her nag;

* " Contraction of haſty-pudding; made in Scotland, and in the Engliſh counties bordering on Scotland, of oatmeal and water boiled to a conſiſtency."
† " A cant name for haſty-pudding." ‡ Furze.

'Go,

'Go, croſs her road, prick up each
beauteous ear,
'And fleetly ſcamper round her
like a ſtag;
'Then give her Ladyſhip your ſweeteſt
ſong—
'I mean a bray that's muſical and
ſtrong.'
"Pleas'd with theſe words, the long-
ear'd creature hies,
And ſoon o'ertakes fair Flavia on
the road,
Brays loud and long, and trots before
her eyes,
Till the affrighten'd ſteed throws
off his load;
Ah, then! the Aſs, poor beaſt! was
caught and tied,
And mercileſs cudgels laid acroſs his
hide." *P.* 168.

WRITTEN IN THE BLANK LEAF OF A QUARTO VOLUME OF DULL POEMS.

"MÆVIUS (the Bard), born in a
writing hour,
With pen unſheath'd, defies the critic's
pow'r;
The threat'ning rod he values not a
pin,
Braſs in his front, *ſtupidity* within:
Whip him with vigour, laſh him o'er
and o'er,
On his unwearied wheel he ſpins the
more:
And, when his toil is finiſh'd, takes a
nap
(Lull'd by his own ſweet notes) in
Dulneſs' lap.
Thus whirling tops, that catch the
ſchoolboy's eye,
Laſh'd well with thongs, in quicker
circles ply;
And, when the well-directed ſcourges
ceaſe,
In ſome dark, ſilent nook recline at
peace." *P.* 177.

LXXIX. *Picture of Palermo.* By Dr. HAGER. Tranſlated from the German, by Mrs. MARY ROBINSON. 12mo. 4s. *Phillips.*

CONTENTS.

THE Winter at Palermo—The Summer—Buildings—Cuſtoms—The Obſervatory—The Women—Arabian Antiquities—A View of the Sea—Theatres—Amuſements—Other Cuſtoms—Language—Cheats—Solemnities—Burials—Society—Country round Palermo—Political State of Palermo and Sicily.

EXTRACTS FROM THE ADVERTISEMENT.

"THE author of this deſcription of Palermo, having reſided two years in that city, at the requeſt of his Sicilian Majeſty, for the purpoſe of examining the Arabic manuſcripts of the Abbaté Vella, ſuppoſed to contain the hiſtory of the iſland under the dominion of the Saracens and Normans, availed himſelf of the opportunity to draw up a ſhort account of its climate, cuſtoms, buildings, antiquities, &c. He hoped it would not prove unacceptable to the intelligent part of Europe, as the travellers who had previouſly deſcribed Sicily had none of them reſided more than a few days or weeks in the capital."

EXTRACTS.

BUILDINGS—THE EMPEROR FREDERICK II.

"AMONGST the buildings of Palermo, the palace of the viceroy, which, on account of the preſent reſidence of the King of Naples, merits particular notice, claims precedence. A ſpacious ſquare, which deſerves to be compared with the largeſt in Europe, gives this ſuperb palace as magnificent an appearance as that of Verſailles, or of Caſerte. A ſingularly wide and commodious ſtaircaſe, with very low ſteps, after the Italian model, which far ſurpaſſes in elegance the famous ſtaircaſe of the palace Ruſpoli at Rome, leads to the royal reſidence of Ferdinand III. This was formerly the abode of Roger, that valiant Norman, who, not content with driving the Saracens out of Sicily, purſued them ſo cloſely on the oppoſite coaſt of Africa, that the Prince of Tunis was compelled to pay an enormous tribute annually. From the windows of this palace the eye commands a ſublime proſpect over the whole city, the ſea, and the neighbouring iſlands. From them may be ſeen, in the moſt charming point of view, the mount Pelegrino, the diſtant light-houſe, the iſland Uſtica, and the ſhips as they majeſtically

majeſtically ſail out of or put into the harbour. The late viceroy ſhowed me here the hall of the Divan, which was adorned with Oriental paintings and moſaic work, and finiſhed by Arabian artiſts, who were ſtill, during the reign of Roger, in poſſeſſion of the mechanical, as well as of the fine arts. Roger made uſe of their ſervices in Sicily, in the ſame manner as Alphonſo and other kings in Spain had done during the middle age. To have ſome idea of what the Arabians were at that period, the traveller need only look at the great moſque at Cordova, that monument of Arabian ſplendour, which attracts the attention and excites the wonder of all nations. It is 600 feet long, and 250 broad. It is ſupported by more than 300 columns of alabaſter, jaſper, and marble. The entrance was through twenty-four brazen doors, ornamented with golden ſculpture; and 4700 lamps illuminated, during the night, this magnificent building.

"The palace of the favourite Sultana of Abdurrhaman, two miles from Cordova, was not inferior in ſize. Beſide forty columns of granite, which the Emperor of Conſtantinople had ſent this prince of the houſe of Ummia, one might count 1200 others of Spaniſh and Italian marble. The walls of this grand hall were covered with ornaments of gold: many animals compoſed of this metal threw water into a baſin of alabaſter, over which hung the coſtly pearl which the Greek Emperor Leo ſent to the Caliph. In the pavilion, where Abdurrhaman was accuſtomed to ſpend the evening in the ſociety of his favourites, the ceiling was inlaid with ſteel, gold, and precious ſtones, which reflected the light from an hundred cryſtal lamps: all this is affirmed by the moſt correct hiſtorians. At Palermo, too, in the time of the Normans, when this court was half Oriental, gardens, fountains, and artificial ſeas, with gilded veſſels for the king and his females, were to be ſeen. Here were coſtly pieces of worked ſilk, which, with their red and green colours, dazzled the eyes, or being emboſſed with pearls, gold, and jewels, exhibited a curious picture, and ſerved for an imperial garment when decorated with Arabic inſcriptions. Here was made the Emperor's robe, which is kept at Nutenberg. Palermo, in the inſcription upon it, is called *Medina*, or the City, as in former times Rome and Conſtantinople were denominated, by way of diſtinction. The king's chapel at Palermo, which is in this palace, is ſtill adorned with Arabic inſcriptions, which cover the walls. The well-preſerved azure, the variegated colours, and the gold which embelliſhes the interior, form a beautiful monument of Arabian art. The librarian of the ſenate Angelini, before I quitted Palermo, had prepared a deſcription of it for the preſs. At the entrance there is an inſcription, very intereſting to a Sicilian, cut in ſtone, in three languages; the Latin, Greek, and Arabic. From this it is clear, that in the time of Roger theſe languages were uſed, as in the days of Apuleius, the Punic, Greek, and Latin tongues were ſpoken in Sicily. The Latin inſcription ſays, that in the year 1142, at the command of Roger, a time-piece was made, which confirms the opinion that time-pieces (about the hiſtory of which ſo little is known at preſent) owe their invention to the Arabians. They were the people which, at that period, were not only acquainted with the arts and ſciences, but alſo made conſiderable progreſs in aſtronomy and mathematics. Before their time moveable time-pieces were not known. The firſt machine of this kind was that which Charles the Great received as a preſent from an Arabian prince, which, by its curious mechaniſm, not only marked the hours, but at every hour vibrated a muſical ſound, while figures on horſeback came out of the windows, and when they re-entered, again cloſed them.

"After the time of Roger, the Sultan of Egypt ſent the Emperor Frederick II. another time-piece, which not only ſhowed, by means of artificial wheels and weights, the hours of day and night, but alſo repreſented the motion of the ſun, moon, and the other planets.

"Next to the palace of the viceroy, the cathedral, on account of its Arabic architecture, claims our notice; for it was built in the twelfth century, when the Arabians were in poſſeſſion of Sicily. It appears like the Arabian moſques and caravanſeries in India, which are ſo well known through Hodges's beautiful drawings. A number of cupolas adorn the exterior, like the grand Dſchami's at Conſtantinople; and the four towers remind the obſerver of the great moſques of the

Levant. In this cathedral Frederick the IId was buried, who died at Fiorenzuola, in Abruzzo. An aſtrologer, whom he had long before conſulted reſpecting his deſtiny, warned him againſt a place which had the name of a *flower*, and of *iron gates*. In conſequence of this he always refuſed to viſit Fiorenza; nay, he would not even once approach this city, till death overtook him at Fiorenzuola. When, in the year 1781, his porphyry tomb was opened, the body, at the period of 500 years, ſeemed as freſh as if it were alive.

"His perfect and entire corpſe, which was immediately deſcribed by Cardini, was wrapped in a triple imperial dreſs, the Alba, the Dalmatica, and the Pluviale. Upon the Alba were ſeen various ornaments; and upon the arms Arabic inſcriptions, embroidered in gold, but in characters of writing different from thoſe of the borders of the imperial mantle at Nurenberg. Below the left ſhoulder a croſs of red ſilk was embroidered, as emblematical of his cruſade to Paleſtine. The ſilk Dalmatica upon the arms was covered with a gold lace four fingers broad: the mantle had an oval gold claſp to faſten it, which was ornamented in the centre with an *amethyſt*, with twenty ſmall ſmaragduſes on the circumference, and with four large pearls. On both ſides of the border, which was ſet with a double row of pearls, eagles were embroidered in ornamental circles, turning their beaks towards each other in pairs. The embroidery of this mantle and the other veſts proves the beauty of the work, and the ſingular art of the Arabians in performances of this delicate nature. Frederick himſelf had ſeveral lovely Arabian girls at his court, who were well experienced in this art, and on account of which he was accuſed by ſome envious perſons before the Pope. He learned the Arabic, which at that time was the faſhionable language, as at this day is the French. From this circumſtance it is evident, why ſo many Arabic words have crept into the Italian vocabulary: it was owing to the intercourſe with that people, who then gave the faſhion: and, to evince a ſingle example, the Italian terms for embroidery, *ricamo*, and to embroider, *ricamare*, are Arabic.

"Frederick was dreſſed in green, after the Arabic faſhion, as at this day the Sultan is at Conſtantinople. Inſtead of the noble Hungarian life-guard, the Imperial life-guard at that time conſiſted of Arabians; and, juſt as in the preſent times a Veſtris or a Gardel is engaged from Paris, ſo the Emperor ordered an Arabian to be provided for the opera at the court of Palermo.

"He introduced into Sicily the practice of heron-hunting (about the origin of which the learned are divided), juſt as he had learnt it in his cruſades. The falcons were firſt covered with a ſmall hood, after the manner of the Arabians. He relates himſelf, in his work upon this ſubject, that he ſent to the Indies for able fowlers, for the purpoſe of obtaining from them the neceſſary inſtructions. The ladies at that time were ſo fond of falcons, that they were as much favoured and careſſed as the lap-dogs of the preſent day. Haſſelquiſt relates, that the Arabians are ſtill accuſtomed to hunt that fleet animal the antelope, with falcons. Tilts, tournaments, and all the eccentric exploits of chivalry in the Spaniſh romances, in which the ladies of the middle age bore ſo conſpicuous a part, were likewiſe introduced by the Arabians, who were ſettled in Spain 700 years, as we learn from the *Romancero-general* and other Spaniſh romances. The Jeſuit Andres, that zealous defender of the Arabians, has already remarked this; and Profeſſor Roſenmuller, of Leipzig, has proved the reſemblance of the Arabian poem Lebid with the Spaniſh Sirventes.

"A relic of theſe tournaments, the play with the cane, or, as it is otherwiſe called, the *Game of the Arabians*, ſtill continues, even after the expulſion of that people from Sicily, juſt as in Spain, where the play of the cane *(juego de cannas)* even yet, according to Twiſs, is a favourite paſtime, in which the champions on horſeback hurl canes at each other inſtead of ſpears. It has alſo been till now the favourite diverſion of the Mamelukes in Egypt, and is ſtill of the Turks at Conſtantinople. I ſaw the Captain Pacha with his ſea-officers, whilſt the fleet lay in the harbour, practiſe it himſelf on horſeback; and was witneſs on many other occaſions to their ſkill in throwing the *dſchirid*.

"This is but a faint image of the Arabian tournaments, as St. Florian has deſcribed them, from contempo-

rary

rary writers. The charming women, who were intereſted in the victory of their lovers; the ribands, devices, and epigrams, which were ſent by them on theſe occaſions, or which the knights choſe themſelves; ſometimes the initials of their heroines' names; ſometimes a heart perforated with darts; ſometimes a lion, led in chains by a ſhepherdeſs; with a variety of other ſymbols: then the various colours, each of which had its particular ſignification; as green was emblematic of hope; red, of love; yellow, of pain; and other colours repreſenting other paſſions. The glittering armour of the knights, their darts and javelins, ſhields and ſabres of Damaſcus; the wild horſe from Barbary, apparently breathing fire, its covering ornamented with pearls and precious ſtones; the knights' veſtments, enriched with gold; the towering feathers on their ſplendid turbans; the ſcene decorated with many colours; a thouſand windows full of animated ſpectators; the preſence of the king and royal family, and all the court; the exhilarating ſound of the trumpets, drums, and all the other Oriental inſtruments; in ſhort, the combat itſelf, and the dexterity and youthful ſpirit diſplayed in it, muſt have altogether formed a delightful ſcene; which we now only behold in the faint images we form from the compoſitions of modern romances: for though it was remarked by Burke, that the age of chivalry was no more, the fervour of imagination is, unqueſtionably, at this epocha, in its full and moſt ſplendid zenith." *P.* 20.

NUNNERIES, &c.

"SICILY, like all other countries, has its peculiar cuſtoms. As drums ſerve the Arabians, from whom we have adopted them, inſtead of bells, in Sicily likewiſe a ſimilar uſe of them prevails: the churchwardens go about the ſtreets in the habit of their office, with theſe inſtruments in their hands, to proclaim a feſtival; and at Naples it is not unuſual for a bagpiper, many of whom are ſeen in the ſtreets, to begin blowing his bagpipes, as ſoon as he comes into the church, in the middle of maſs, and before the whole congregation. At Madrid, too, may be ſeen Canary birds in the churches, and ſometimes in cages upon the high altar, which, as ſoon as the muſic commences, begin a loud cry, entirely diſcordant with the orcheſtra.

"Although in other countries, nuns, becauſe they have renounced the world, are accuſtomed to reſide in habitations detached from the reſt of the neighbourhood; yet at Palermo, on the firſt floor, men, and on the ſecond floor nuns, are ſeen looking down from the windows.

"As many cloiſters are ſituated apart from the centre of the town, they make a paſſage ſometimes under ground, and ſometimes over the tops of the neighbouring houſes, in order to reach the chief ſtreet of the city. At Caſſero, they hire the upper apartments, whilſt the lower ſtories are inhabited by ſeculars, for the ſake of enjoying the ſight of the proceſſions among the multitude, and of the illuminations. In other places they are uſually confined for life; but in Palermo, youthful nuns are ſeen in carriages, or, under pretext of indiſpoſition, living in the houſes of their relations. There they ſtand on the balconies over the ſtreets, dreſſed in the habits of their order, contemplate the youthful of the other ſex, and frequently enter into lively and even gallant converſation, until they obtain their ſecularization, which has become very eaſy ſince the time of the Viceroy Caraccioli. I ſaw ſeveral married women at Palermo, who had been formerly nuns, and from the cloiſter had paſſed into the marriage-bed. Of theſe nunneries there are in Palermo alone twenty-two. I viſited one of them, and ſaw there, with commiſeration, girls of eighteen and twenty years of age buried from ſociety; for they find themſelves obliged to aſſume the veil, becauſe the female who poſſeſſes no portion cannot eaſily obtain a matrimonial eſtabliſhment." *P.* 33.

BURIALS.

"AMONG the objects moſt curious to the eye of the traveller, at Palermo, are the ſubterranean vaults of the Capuchins; where, like thoſe of their convent at Rome, near the palace of Barberini, a gallery of dead bodies is to be ſeen. Monks are there placed in an erect attitude, covered with their *capuch*, their beards ſtill pendent, and their perſons ſtill preſerving their ori-

ginal form. The wall is ſymmetrically ſet with human bones; and the front of the altar is compoſed of teeth, ſtrikingly reſembling the moſaic pavement of Pompéjé. Thus I ſaw in the famous *Caveau des Cordeliers*, at Toulouſe, near five hundred uncorrupted dead bodies, which are preſerved in the ſubterraneous vaults of that monaſtery. The view of theſe cadavres, reclining againſt the wall, or almoſt in an erect poſition, was rendered ſtill more horrible by the faint light of a lantern, which was borne by the ſexton who attended me.

"When I evinced marks of aſtoniſhment, my guide, placing his finger under the chin of one, whoſe face I was earneſtly contemplating, raiſed the body from the ground, as though it had been made of paper: ſo light was this withered emblem of mortality.

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